

## Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (Excerpts)

PUBLIC LAW 100-497-OCT. 17, 1988 100TH CONGRESS SEC. 2701.

### Sec. 2701 Findings

The Congress finds that -

- (1) numerous Indian tribes have become engaged in or have licensed gaming activities on Indian lands as a means of generating tribal governmental revenue;
- (2) Federal courts have held that section 81 of this title requires Secretarial review of management contracts dealing with Indian gaming, but does not provide standards for approval of such contracts;
- (3) existing Federal law does not provide clear standards or regulations for the conduct of gaming on Indian lands;
- (4) a principal goal of Federal Indian policy is to promote tribal economic development, tribal self-sufficiency, and strong tribal government; and
- (5) Indian tribes have the exclusive right to regulate gaming activity on Indian lands if the gaming activity is not specifically prohibited by Federal law and is conducted within a State which does not, as a matter of criminal law and public policy, prohibit such gaming activity.

### Sec. 2702. Declaration of policy

The purpose of this chapter is -

- (1) to provide a statutory basis for the operation of gaming by Indian tribes as a means of promoting tribal economic development, self-sufficiency, and strong tribal governments;
- (2) to provide a statutory basis for the regulation of gaming by an Indian tribe adequate to shield it from organized crime and other corrupting influences, to ensure that the Indian tribe is the primary beneficiary of the gaming operation, and to assure that gaming is conducted fairly and honestly by both the operator and players; and
- (3) to declare that the establishment of independent Federal regulatory authority for gaming on Indian lands, the establishment of Federal standards for gaming on Indian lands, and the establishment of a National Indian Gaming Commission are necessary to meet congressional concerns regarding gaming and to protect such gaming as a means of generating tribal revenue.

### Sec. 2703. Definitions

For purposes of this chapter -

- (4) The term "**Indian lands**" means -
  - (A) all lands within the limits of any Indian reservation; and
  - (B) any lands title to which is either held in trust by the United States for the benefit of any Indian tribe or individual or held by any Indian tribe or individual subject to restriction by the United States against alienation and over which an Indian tribe exercises governmental power.
- (5) The term "**Indian tribe**" means any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community of Indians which -
  - (A) is recognized as eligible by the Secretary for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians, and
  - (B) is recognized as possessing powers of self-government.
- (6) The term "**class I gaming**" means social games solely for prizes of minimal value or traditional forms of Indian gaming engaged in by individuals as a part of, or in connection with, tribal ceremonies or celebrations.
- (7) (A) The term "**class II gaming**" means -
  - (i) the game of chance commonly known as bingo (whether or not electronic, computer, or other technologic aids are used in connection therewith) -
    - (I) which is played for prizes, including monetary prizes, with cards bearing numbers or other designations,
    - (II) in which the holder of the card covers such numbers or designations when objects, similarly numbered or designated, are drawn or electronically determined, and
    - (III) in which the game is won by the first person covering a previously designated arrangement of numbers or designations on such cards, including (if played in the same location) pull-tabs, lotto, punch boards, tip jars, instant bingo, and other games similar to bingo, and
  - (ii) card games that -
    - (I) are explicitly authorized by the laws of the State, or
    - (II) are not explicitly prohibited by the laws of the State and are played at any location in the State, but only if such card games are played in conformity with those laws and regulations (if any) of the State regarding

hours or periods of operation of such card games or limitations on wagers or pot sizes in such card games.

(B) The term "class II gaming" does not include

(i) any banking card games, including baccarat, chemin de fer, or blackjack (21), or

(ii) electronic or electromechanical facsimiles of any game of chance or slot machines of any kind.

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(8) The term "class III gaming" means all forms of gaming that are not class I gaming or class II gaming.

## **Sec. 2710. Tribal gaming ordinances**

### **(a) Jurisdiction over class I and class II gaming activity**

(1) Class I gaming on Indian lands is within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Indian tribes and shall not be subject to the provisions of this chapter.

(2) Any class II gaming on Indian lands shall continue to be within the jurisdiction of the Indian tribes, but shall be subject to the provisions of this chapter.

### **(b) Regulation of class II gaming activity; net revenue allocation; audits; contracts**

(1) An Indian tribe may engage in, or license and regulate, class II gaming on Indian lands within such tribe's jurisdiction, if -

(A) such Indian gaming is located within a State that permits such gaming for any purpose by any person, organization or entity (and such gaming is not otherwise specifically prohibited on Indian lands by Federal law), and

(B) the governing body of the Indian tribe adopts an ordinance or resolution which is approved by the Chairman. A separate license issued by the Indian tribe shall be required for each place, facility, or location on Indian lands at which class II gaming is conducted.

(2) The Chairman shall approve any tribal ordinance or resolution concerning the conduct, or regulation of class II gaming on the Indian lands within the tribe's jurisdiction if such ordinance or resolution provides that

(A) except as provided in paragraph (4), the Indian tribe will have the sole proprietary interest and responsibility for the conduct of any gaming activity;

**(B) net revenues from any tribal gaming are not to be used for purposes other than -**

(i) to fund tribal government operations or programs;

(ii) to provide for the general welfare of the Indian tribe and its members;

(iii) to promote tribal economic development;

(iv) to donate to charitable organizations; or (v) to help fund operations of local government agencies;

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Class III gaming**

(d) (1) Class III gaming activities shall be lawful on Indian lands only if such activities are -

(A) authorized by an ordinance or resolution that -

(i) is adopted by the governing body of the Indian tribe having jurisdiction over such lands,

(ii) meets the requirements of subsection (b) of this section, and

(iii) is approved by the Chairman,

(B) located in a State that permits such gaming for any purpose by any person, organization, or entity, and

(C) conducted in conformance with a Tribal-State compact entered into by the Indian tribe and the State under paragraph (3) that is in effect.

### **Adoption and Submission of Ordinance**

(2) (A) If any Indian tribe proposes to engage in, or to authorize any person or entity to engage in, a class III gaming activity on Indian lands of the Indian tribe, the governing body of the Indian tribe shall adopt and submit to the Chairman an ordinance or resolution that meets the requirements of subsection (b) of this section.

(B) The Chairman shall approve any ordinance or resolution described in subparagraph (A), unless the Chairman specifically determines that

(i) the ordinance or resolution was not adopted in compliance with the governing documents of the Indian tribe, or

(ii) the tribal governing body was significantly and unduly influenced in the adoption of such ordinance or resolution by any person identified in section 2711 (e)(1)(D) of this title.

Upon the approval of such an ordinance or resolution, the Chairman shall publish in the Federal Register such ordinance or resolution and the order of approval.

(C) Effective with the publication under subparagraph (B) of an ordinance or resolution adopted by the governing body of an Indian tribe that has been approved by the Chairman under subparagraph (B), class III gaming activity on the Indian lands of the Indian tribe shall be fully subject to the terms and conditions of the Tribal-State compact entered into under paragraph (3) by the Indian tribe that is in effect.

### **Revocation of Class III Ordinances**

(D) (i) The governing body of an Indian tribe, in its sole discretion and without the approval of the Chairman, may adopt an ordinance or resolution revoking any prior ordinance or resolution that authorized class III gaming on the Indian lands of the Indian tribe. Such revocation shall render class III gaming illegal on the

Indian lands of such Indian tribe.

(ii) The Indian tribe shall submit any revocation ordinance or resolution described in clause (i) to the Chairman. The Chairman shall publish such ordinance or resolution in the Federal Register and the revocation provided by such ordinance or resolution shall take effect on the date of such publication.

(iii) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection -

(I) any person or entity operating a class III gaming activity pursuant to this paragraph on the date on which an ordinance or resolution described in clause (i) that revokes authorization for such class III gaming activity is published in the Federal Register may, during the 1-year period beginning on the date on which such revocation ordinance or resolution is published under clause (ii), continue to operate such activity in conformance with the Tribal-State compact entered into under paragraph (3) that is in effect, and

(II) any civil action that arises before, and any crime that is committed before, the close of such 1-year period shall not be affected by such revocation ordinance or resolution.

#### **Tribal State Compacts**

(3) (A) Any Indian tribe having jurisdiction over the Indian lands upon which a class III gaming activity is being conducted, or is to be conducted, shall request the State in which such lands are located to enter into negotiations for the purpose of entering into a Tribal-State compact governing the conduct of gaming activities. Upon receiving such a request, the State shall negotiate with the Indian tribe in good faith to enter into such a compact.

(B) Any State and any Indian tribe may enter into a Tribal-State compact governing gaming activities on the Indian lands of the Indian tribe, but such compact shall take effect only when notice of approval by the Secretary of such compact has been published by the Secretary in the Federal Register.

(C) Any Tribal-State compact negotiated under subparagraph (A) may include provisions relating to -

(i) the application of the criminal and civil laws and regulations of the Indian tribe or the State that are directly related to, and necessary for, the licensing and regulation of such activity;

(ii) the allocation of criminal and civil jurisdiction between the State and the Indian tribe necessary for the enforcement of such laws and regulations;

(iii) the assessment by the State of such activities in such amounts as are necessary to defray the costs of regulating such activity;

(iv) taxation by the Indian tribe of such activity in amounts comparable to amounts assessed by the State for comparable activities;

(v) remedies for breach of contract;

(vi) standards for the operation of such activity and maintenance of the gaming facility, including licensing; and

(vii) any other subjects that are directly related to the operation of gaming activities.

(4) Except for any assessments that may be agreed to under paragraph (3)(C)(iii) of this subsection, nothing in this section shall be interpreted as conferring upon a State or any of its political subdivisions authority to impose any tax, fee, charge, or other assessment upon an Indian tribe or upon any other person or entity authorized by an Indian tribe to engage in a class III activity. No State may refuse to enter into the negotiations described in paragraph (3)(A) based upon the lack of authority in such State, or its political subdivisions, to impose such a tax, fee, charge, or other assessment.

(5) Nothing in this subsection shall impair the right of an Indian tribe to regulate class III gaming on its Indian lands concurrently with the State, except to the extent that such regulation is inconsistent with, or less stringent than, the State laws and regulations made applicable by any Tribal-State compact entered into by the Indian tribe under paragraph (3) that is in effect.

#### **Application of the Johnson Act**

(6) The provisions of section 1175 of title 15 shall not apply to any gaming conducted under a Tribal-State compact that -

(A) is entered into under paragraph (3) by a State in which gambling devices are legal, and

(B) is in effect.

#### **Federal Court Actions**

(7) (A) The United States district courts shall have jurisdiction over -

(i) any cause of action initiated by an Indian tribe arising from the failure of a State to enter into negotiations with the Indian tribe for the purpose of entering into a Tribal-State compact under paragraph (3) or to conduct such negotiations in good faith,

(ii) any cause of action initiated by a State or Indian tribe to enjoin a class III gaming activity located on Indian lands and conducted in violation of any Tribal-State compact entered into under paragraph (3) that is in effect, and

(iii) any cause of action initiated by the Secretary to enforce the procedures prescribed under subparagraph (B)(vii).

(B) (i) An Indian tribe may initiate a cause of action described in subparagraph (A)(i) only after the close of the 180-day period beginning on the date on which the Indian tribe requested the State to enter into negotiations under paragraph (3)(A).

- (ii) In any action described in subparagraph (A)(i), upon the introduction of evidence by an Indian tribe that -
  - (I) a Tribal-State compact has not been entered into under paragraph (3), and
  - (II) the State did not respond to the request of the Indian tribe to negotiate such a compact or did not respond to such request in good faith, the burden of proof shall be upon the State to prove that the State has negotiated with the Indian tribe in good faith to conclude a Tribal-State compact governing the conduct of gaming activities.
- (iii) If, in any action described in subparagraph (A)(i), the court finds that the State has failed to negotiate in good faith with the Indian tribe to conclude a Tribal-State compact governing the conduct of gaming activities, the court shall order the State and the Indian Tribe to conclude such a compact within a 60-day period. In determining in such an action whether a State has negotiated in good faith, the court -
  - (I) may take into account the public interest, public safety, criminality, financial integrity, and adverse economic impacts on existing gaming activities, and
  - (II) shall consider any demand by the State for direct taxation of the Indian tribe or of any Indian lands as evidence that the State has not negotiated in good faith.

#### **Mediation**

- (iv) If a State and an Indian tribe fail to conclude a Tribal-State compact governing the conduct of gaming activities on the Indian lands subject to the jurisdiction of such Indian tribe within the 60-day period provided in the order of a court issued under clause (iii), the Indian tribe and the State shall each submit to a mediator appointed by the court a proposed compact that represents their last best offer for a compact. The mediator shall select from the two proposed compacts the one which best comports with the terms of this chapter and any other applicable Federal law and with the findings and order of the court.
- (v) The mediator appointed by the court under clause (iv) shall submit to the State and the Indian tribe the compact selected by the mediator under clause (iv).
- (vi) If a State consents to a proposed compact during the 60-day period beginning on the date on which the proposed compact is submitted by the mediator to the State under clause (v), the proposed compact shall be treated as a Tribal-State compact entered into under paragraph (3).

#### **Procedures Prescribed by the Secretary**

- (vii) If the State does not consent during the 60-day period described in clause (vi) to a proposed compact submitted by a mediator under clause (v), the mediator shall notify the Secretary and the Secretary shall prescribe, in consultation with the Indian tribe, procedures -
  - (I) which are consistent with the proposed compact selected by the mediator under clause (iv), the provisions of this chapter, and the relevant provisions of the laws of the State, and
  - (II) under which class III gaming may be conducted on the Indian lands over which the Indian tribe has jurisdiction.

#### **Secretarial Approval of Tribal-State Compacts**

- (B) (A) The Secretary is authorized to approve any Tribal-State compact entered into between an Indian tribe and a State governing gaming on Indian lands of such Indian tribe.
- (B) The Secretary may disapprove a compact described in subparagraph (A) only if such compact violates -
  - (i) any provision of this chapter,
  - (ii) any other provision of Federal law that does not relate to jurisdiction over gaming on Indian lands, or
  - (iii) the trust obligations of the United States to Indians.
- (C) If the Secretary does not approve or disapprove a compact described in subparagraph (A) before the date that is 45 days after the date on which the compact is submitted to the Secretary for approval, the compact shall be considered to have been approved by the Secretary, but only to the extent the compact is consistent with the provisions of this chapter.
- (D) The Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register notice of any Tribal-State compact that is approved, or considered to have been approved, under this paragraph.

#### **Sec. 2719. Gaming on lands acquired after October 17, 1988**

- (a) Prohibition on lands acquired in trust by Secretary Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, gaming regulated by this chapter shall not be conducted on lands acquired by the Secretary in trust for the benefit of an Indian tribe after October 17, 1988, unless -
  - (1) such lands are located within or contiguous to the boundaries of the reservation of the Indian tribe on October 17, 1988; or
  - (2) the Indian tribe has no reservation on October 17, 1988, and -
    - (A) such lands are located in Oklahoma and -
      - (i) are within the boundaries of the Indian tribe's former reservation, as defined by the Secretary, or
      - (ii) are contiguous to other land held in trust or restricted status by the United States for the Indian tribe in Oklahoma; or
    - (B) such lands are located in a State other than Oklahoma and are within the Indian tribe's last recognized reservation within the State or States within which such Indian tribe is presently located.



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# States and Tribes: Building New Traditions

## Indian Gaming in the States

Dispelling Myths and Highlighting Advantages



PR-58 02-2007

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Shawn Pensoneau ~ (202) 632-7003

**NIGC Announces Intention to Revise Proposed Class II Regulations**

*Washington DC, February 9, 2007* — The National Indian Gaming Commission (NIGC or Commission) announced that if it goes forward with regulations to better distinguish between technologic aids to bingo and Class III casino games and with technical standards for those technologic aids, such regulations would likely vary from those the Commission published in May and August of 2006.

"We remain committed to bringing consideration of these important issues to an early conclusion," NIGC Chairman Phil Hogen, stated, "but as it is likely that our finished product would depart in several areas from that published in the Federal Register in 2006, we are withdrawing those earlier proposals. We are busily working on revisions. If and when we finish those — and we are cautiously optimistic that will be soon — new drafts would be published as proposed regulations and further comment would be solicited before they are finalized."

Official notice will be published in the Federal Register next week, of the Commission's withdrawal of the proposals relating to Definitions and Classification Standards published on May 25, 2006, and those relating to Technical Standards on August 11, 2006.

The Commission has conducted extensive Government-to-Government consultations over the past year, meeting with over 70 individual Tribes and holding an unprecedented public hearing on September 19, 2006 in Washington, DC. The Commission has received over 100 comments from Tribes and over 40 comments from other interested parties. The copies of the statements and transcripts from the consultations and hearing are available on the NIGC web site ([www.nigc.gov](http://www.nigc.gov)).

"We have received an impressive amount of productive and thoughtful comment on these critically important issues" said NIGC Chairman Phil Hogen. Hogen continued, "The Commission has listened and carefully considered this input, concluding that it must take another look at the form and substance of the proposed regulations."

Chairman Hogen stated, "The Commission understands and fully appreciates the significance of these regulations and their potential impact on existing and future Tribal Class II gaming operations, and the critical need there is for clarity in this area."

*The NIGC is an independent regulatory agency established within the Department of the Interior pursuant to the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act of 1988.*

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Tacoma, WA - Sunday, February 11, 2007

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## Spokanes' gambling expansion approved

**The News Tribune**

Last updated: February 10th, 2007 06:59 AM (PST)

Increased slot-style tribal gambling looks to be spreading throughout Washington under a deal endorsed Friday by the state Gambling Commission.

The commission voted for a compact between state regulators and the Spokane Tribe of Indians. It would let the tribe operate up to 4,700 gambling machines in as many as five casinos. But that's just the beginning.

The state expects to have deals for the other tribes within the next month. That includes the Puyallups, who have casinos in Tacoma and Fife.

"Negotiations with all the other tribes are centering around similar terms and conditions as the Spokane tribe," said Tom Fitzsimmons, the governor's chief of staff.

But Fitzsimmons said that doesn't mean all other tribes will get the same deal as the Spokanes. The Spokanes are unique, he said, with a large reservation and particularly the ability to have casinos 25 or more miles apart.

"There are likely to be some important distinctions," he said. "One of which is the fact other tribes will not have 4,700 machines."

Fitzsimmons estimated the total number of gambling machines at tribal casinos statewide would increase from 18,225 to around 25,000. He said most tribes would be held to their current two-casino maximum.

Fitzsimmons said the Puyallup tribe is asking for more than the 3,000 gambling machines it is currently authorized for its two casinos in the Tacoma area. That is under negotiation.

Another feature of the Spokane deal that other tribes could get is the power to raise betting limits from \$5 to \$20 on 15 percent of the machines.

The statewide approach "harmonizes" the compacts and sets fairly uniform treatment of tribal gambling, Fitzsimmons said.

The state could not just shut the door after the Spokane deal. Every tribe can ask for the same gambling benefits negotiated by one tribe. The state has to consider such requests in "good faith," and is limited in its ability to turn them down.

Twenty tribes currently operate 25 casinos in the state.

Gov. Chris Gregoire is expected to sign the Spokane compact and send it to the U.S. Department of the Interior, where approval is also expected.

The Gambling Commission voted 6-3 on Friday to endorse the deal. The decision came after commission member and state Sen. Margarita Prentice, D-Renton, who had been critical of the deal, changed her mind and voted for it.

Prentice said she was convinced by the tribe's decision to back off on a part of the deal that would allow no-limit betting at some tables.

Spokane Tribal Secretary Gerald Nicodemus said the tribe would not offer such high-stakes gambling for three years. The tribe would then come back to the state and negotiate over a "memorandum of understanding" for how the high stakes

would work.

Nicodemus said the compact would help the tribe with health care, education and development.

"The Spokane tribe clearly needs the opportunities provided by this compact," he said. "This compact will be the best chance to impact our tribe's future in a historic way."

The Spokanes are the last tribe in Washington that runs casinos without a gambling compact with the state. The tribe needs the compact to get financing for a casino-hotel and to ask the federal government for permission to build an off-reservation casino.

The Spokanes' deal came after 15 years of lawsuits and stalled negotiations with the state.

Some critics of the deal complained about an explosion of gambling and the social ills it can bring. Other said there should have been a requirement that the tribes share revenue with the state.

Federal ratification of the Spokane compact could take a year. The Spokanes could operate only up to 1,500 slot-style machines in the first three years of the pact. Fitzsimmons said the tribe would have to come back and negotiate with the state to get its maximum of 4,700.

The deal would for the first time allow the use of cash-fed, single-button gambling machines. Washington's tribal casinos currently use two-button machines that take paper tickets instead of cash.

#### Deal in detail

A proposed gambling compact would allow the Spokane Tribe of Indians to:

- Have up to five casinos.
- Operate as many as 4,700 coin-operated, single-button video gambling machines. Currently, machines must have two buttons and take paper tickets, not coins.
- Raise betting limits on 15 percent of its slot-style machines from \$5 to \$20 a turn.
- Pursue approval of an off-reservation casino.

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The Associated Press contributed to this story.

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**REAL**

## Appendix C

# General Gambling Information

FY 2005 AND 2006 BIENNIAL REPORT – GAMBLING CONTROL DIVISION

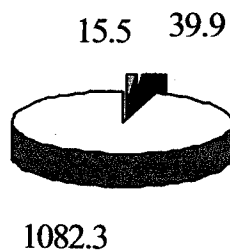
# APPENDIX C

## CHART 1

### AMOUNTS WAGERED ON GAMBLING ACTIVITIES

<i>Fiscal Year</i>	<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2006</i>
Live Horse Racing	\$1.8	\$1.9	\$1.9	\$1.9	\$1.9
Simulcast Racing	7.8	9.5	7.9	7.3	7.0
Commercial Live Keno	3.8	3.5	3.9	3.3	3.1
Commercial Live Bingo	6.3	5.2	6.4	3.9	3.5
Lottery	33.6	34.7	36.7	33.8	39.9
Video Gambling Machines	\$832.6	\$878.6	\$953.7	\$1,016.8	\$1,082.3
<b>Total Amounts Wagered (Millions)</b>	<b>\$885.9</b>	<b>\$933.4</b>	<b>\$1,010.5</b>	<b>\$1,067.0</b>	<b>\$1,137.7</b>

#### Amounts Wagered in Fiscal Year 2006



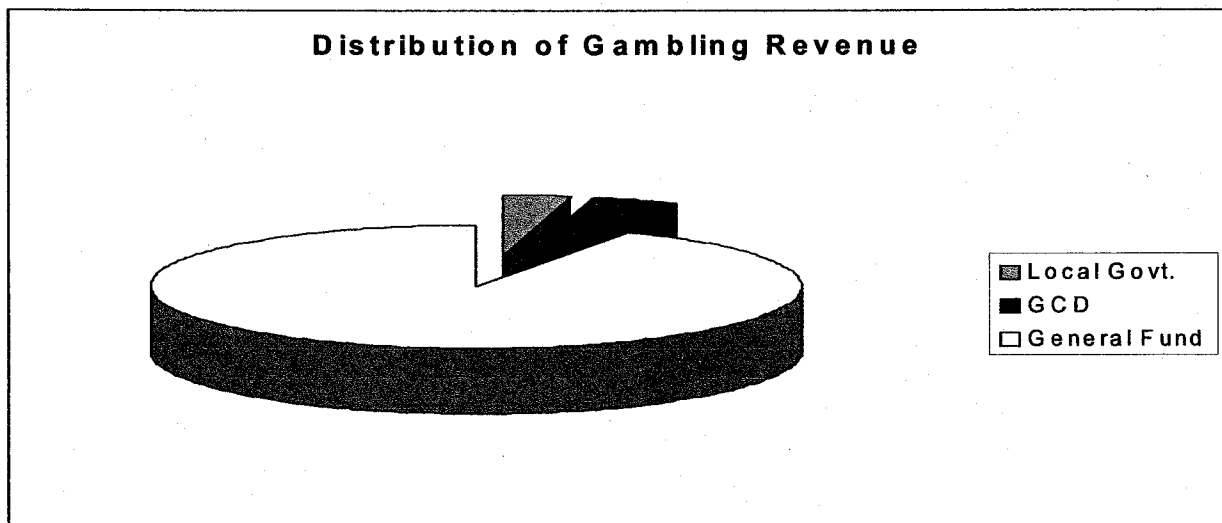
All Other
  Lottery
  Video Gambling Machines

# APPENDIX C

## CHART 2

### DISTRIBUTION OF GAMBLING REVENUE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006

Revenue Source	Total Collected	Local Govt.	GCD	General Fund
VGM Goss Income Tax	\$56,839,855	\$0	\$0	\$56,839,855
Live Bingo & Keno Tax	\$17,915	\$17,915	\$0	\$0
Sports Tab Tax	\$979	\$0	\$979	\$0
VGM Permit Fees	\$4,233,185	\$1,926,700	\$2,306,485	\$0
Fines/Penalties	\$120,756	\$0	\$0	\$120,756
Lab Test Fees	\$83,509	\$0	\$83,509	\$0
Bingo & Keno Permit Fees	\$14,375	\$0	\$14,375	\$0
Card Table Permit Fees	\$144,750	\$91,650	\$53,100	\$0
Casino Night Permit Fees	\$1,250	\$0	\$1,250	\$0
Antique Slot Dealer	\$300	\$0	\$300	\$0
Operator License Fees	\$131,878	\$0	\$131,878	\$0
Card Dealer License Fees	\$42,230	\$0	\$42,230	\$0
Card Room Contractor Fees	\$9,150	\$0	\$9,150	\$0
Card Tournament Fees	\$3,140	\$0	\$3,140	\$0
Manufacturer License Fees	\$104,878	\$0	\$104,878	\$0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$61,748,150</b>	<b>\$2,036,265</b>	<b>\$2,751,274</b>	<b>\$56,960,611</b>
<b>Percent of Total</b>	<b>100.00%</b>	<b>3.30%</b>	<b>4.46%</b>	<b>92.25%</b>





## Department of Justice

Mike McGrath  
Attorney General

# State-Tribal Gaming Compacts

Federal law completely preempts state law regarding gaming on Indian reservations. It requires states negotiate in good faith to reach gaming compacts to provide for gaming on Indian lands. In compliance with federal law, Montana has responded to tribal requests to negotiate, and has successfully negotiated agreements with five of the state's seven reservations:

- Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes
- Chippewa Cree Tribe
- Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (Flathead Nation)
- Crow Tribe
- Northern Cheyenne Tribe

No compacts exist with the Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Reservation or with the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine Tribes of the Fort Belknap Reservation.

## Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation

**Term of Compact:** Initially signed in 1992, the compact has been amended and extended numerous times, and is currently extended until a new compact is negotiated.

**Types of Games:** Video gambling machines (poker, keno, bingo), simulcast racing, live keno, lot including Montana State Lottery

**Conditions of Play:**

- Video gambling machines (\$1,500 maximum payout)
- 100 machines per tribal premise, 20 for individual operators
- Non-tribal operators on non-tribal fee land are regulated by the state

## Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boys Reservation

**Compact:** Interim Compact Between the Chippewa Cree Tribe of the Rocky Boy's Reservation and the State of Montana Regarding Class III Gaming (PDF 2.5MB)

**Term of Compact:** 4/19/93, renewed 11/18/05; no expiration date

**Types of Games:** Video gambling machines (poker, keno, bingo), parimutuel wagering and simulcast racing, calcutta pools, fantasy sports leagues, fishing derbies and betting on horse racing occurrences, tribal lottery, shake-a-day, shake for music or drinks, live keno, sports pools, sports tabs, raffles

**Conditions of Play:**

- Video gambling machines (\$1,500 maximum payout)
- 300 machines for the Reservation

## Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation

The five-year compact with the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation expires November 30, 2006.



## Crow Tribe

**Term of Compact:** Initially signed in 1993, the compact has been amended and extended numerous times, and is currently extended until a new compact is negotiated.

**Types of Games:** Video gambling machines (poker, keno, bingo), simulcast racing, calcutta pool fantasy sports leagues, fishing derbies and betting on natural occurrences, lotto shake-a-day, live keno, sports pools, sports tabs

**Conditions of Play:**

- Video gambling machines (\$1,500 maximum payout)
- 100 machines per tribal premise; premise located at Crow Agency

## Northern Cheyenne Tribe

**Compact:** [Agreement Between the Northern Cheyenne Tribe and the State of Montana Concerning Class III Gaming \(PDF 2.3MB\)](#)

**Term of Compact:** 9/28/93 - 5/2/07

**Types of Games:** Video gambling machines (poker, keno, bingo), simulcast racing, calcutta pool fantasy sports leagues, fishing derbies and betting on natural occurrences, lotto including Montana State Lottery, shake-a-day, shake for music or drinks, live sports pools, sports tabs, raffles, high stakes live poker

**Conditions of Play:**

- Video gambling machines (\$1,500 maximum payout)
- 100 machines per tribal premise



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## American Indian and Total Population for Crow Reservation and Related Areas

American Indian Population							
Geography	Census	Estimates					
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
Crow Reservation	5,165	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Big Horn County	7,560	7,623	7,677	7,717	7,879	8,067	
Crow Agency CDP*	1,485	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Fort Smith CDP*	40	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Lodge Grass	442	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Pryor CDP*	533	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
St. Xavier CDP*	35	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Wyola CDP*	147	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Yellowstone County	3,950	4,157	4,364	4,454	4,521	4,724	
Total Population							
Geography	Census	Estimates					
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
Crow Reservation	6,894	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Big Horn County	12,671	12,817	12,829	12,897	13,076	13,149	
Crow Agency CDP*	1,552	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Fort Smith CDP*	122	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Lodge Grass	510	515	515	517	523	522	
Pryor CDP*	628	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
St. Xavier CDP*	67	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Wyola CDP*	186	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
Yellowstone County	129,352	130,572	131,898	133,265	134,806	136,691	

*Source: U.S. Census Bureau.*  
*\*Census designated places (CDPs) are delineated for each decennial census as the statistical counterparts of incorporated places. CDPs are delineated to provide data for settled concentrations of population that are identifiable by name but are not legally incorporated under the laws of the state in which they are located. The boundaries usually are defined in cooperation with local and tribal officials. These boundaries, which usually coincide with visible features on the boundary of an adjacent incorporated place or other legal entity boundary, have no legal status, nor do these places have officials elected to serve traditional municipal functions.*  
*n/a = Not available.*

## Crow Reservation Information

**Tribe:**  
Apsaalooke

**Tribe Address:**  
Crow Tribes of Indians, Executive Branch  
Bacheelotche Ave., P.O. Box 159  
Crow Agency, MT 59022 406-638-3732  
[www.crowtribes.net](http://www.crowtribes.net)

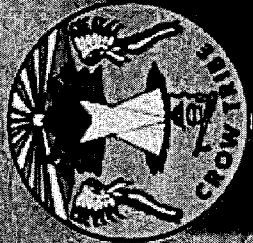
**Little Big Horn College**  
1 Forest Lane, Crow Agency, MT 59022  
406-638-3104 [www.lbhc.cc.mt.us](http://www.lbhc.cc.mt.us)



*Tribal Chairman*  
Carl E. Yenne



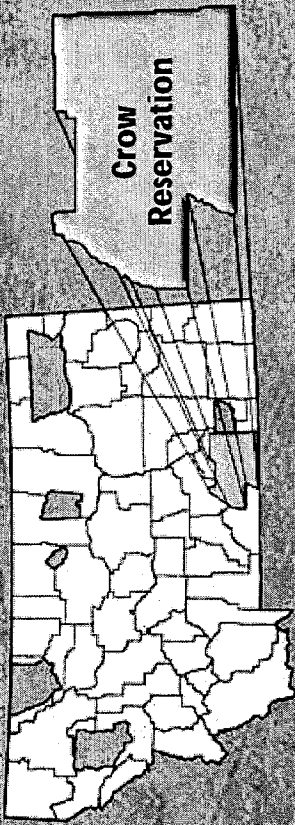
*Governor*  
Brian Schweitzer



*Photo courtesy of State and Park Systems*

## Demographic & Economic Information for

# Crow Reservation



**RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU**  
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY  
P.O. Box 200502, Helena, MT 59620-0502  
Ph: (406) 541-2740 Fax: (406) 541-2731  
E-mail: [relic@mt.gov](mailto:relic@mt.gov)  
Website: [www.ceic.mt.gov](http://www.ceic.mt.gov)

**Census and Economic Information Center**  
Montana Department of Commerce  
P.O. Box 200502, Helena, MT 59620-0502  
Ph: (406) 541-2740 Fax: (406) 541-2731  
E-mail: [relic@mt.gov](mailto:relic@mt.gov)  
Website: [www.ceic.mt.gov](http://www.ceic.mt.gov)

**Research & Analysis Bureau**  
Montana Department of Labor & Industry  
P.O. Box 1726, Helena, MT 59624-7728  
Ph: (406) 444-2430 or (800) 541-3904 Fax: (406) 444-2638  
E-mail: [webmaster@mt.gov](mailto:webmaster@mt.gov)  
Website: [www.ourfuture.org](http://www.ourfuture.org)

**State Tribal Economic Development Commission**  
Governor's Office of Indian Affairs  
State Capitol  
Helena, MT 59620-0801



Have questions or comments? Please contact Tyler Turner at (406) 444-2992

# Crow Reservation

The Crow Reservation, headquartered in Crow Agency, is the largest reservation in Montana, encompassing 2.2 million acres of rolling upland plains, the Wolf, Bighorn and Pryor Mountains, and the bottomlands of the Bighorn River, Little Bighorn River and Pryor Creek. The reservation is home to 8,143 (71.7%) of the 11,357 enrolled Apsalooke tribal members.

According to Tribal Enrollment officials, 4,258 (37.49%) of enrolled Apsalooke members are below the age of 18. To address the need for post-secondary education, the Tribe took a progressive stance and opened Little Bighorn Community College in 1980. What began with less than a dozen students now hosts 328 full-time students and employs 50 staff members, 12 faculty members, and 7 work-study program students.

The majority of employment is supplied by the Crow Tribe and federal programs, providing work to 2,202 employees in total. More specifically, the Bureau of Indian Affairs provides employment to 87 employees and the Crow/Northern Cheyenne Hospital has 270 employees, including all outreach services. Privately owned businesses account for 253 employees in total (*employment numbers provided by tribal and public entities directly*).

The basis of the economy is derived from the rich resources of the Tribe's land, which is used directly to support livestock operations. The Tribe owns vast and varied amounts of renewable and non-renewable resources on the reservation which include land, sand and gravel, water and timber, coal, oil, and methane gas. In October of 2004, the Crow Tribe contracted Koski Geophysical Consulting of Billings to conduct seismic testing, evaluation and interpretation of data. With the findings, the Tribe was able to market its potential for oil and methane gas production at trade shows in Houston and Denver. In May 2005, the Tribe secured a minerals lease agreement with Golden Arrow Energy of Wyoming to begin production on 7,680 acres south of Crow Agency.

The Crow Nation is the first Tribe in the United States to adopt into law the Model Secured Transactions Act that was developed by the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL). NCCUSL drafted the Uniform Commercial Code in the 1940s.

In 2001, the Crow Nation approved a new constitution, designating four year terms for elected officers and an elected district legislature. Since adopting the new constitution, the Crow Legislature has approved the Finance Protection and Procedures Act and the Model Tribal Secured Transactions Act. These two acts enable Crow members to obtain home ownership and business ownership financing. This recently enacted legal infrastructure has provided economic opportunity and stability for Crow members and the community.

Author: Michelle Robinson, DLI Commissioner's Office

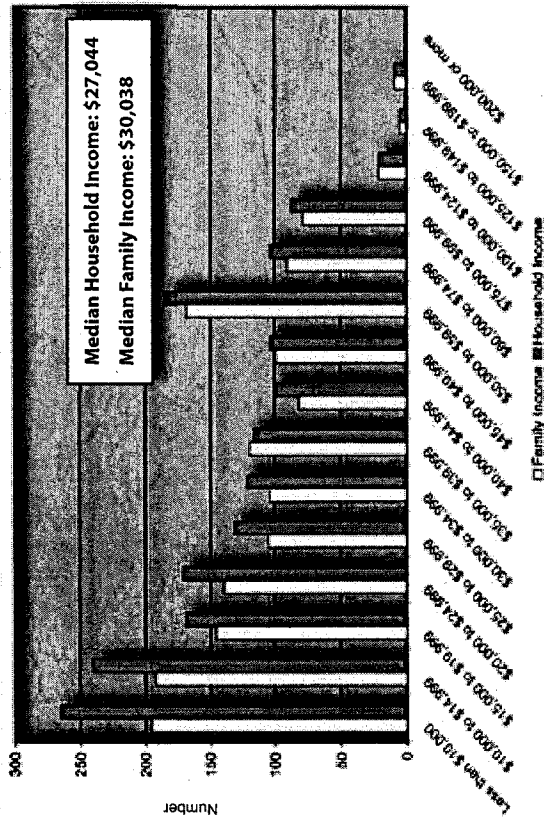
## Crow Reservation - Agricultural Statistics 2002 Census of Agriculture

Farms		All Farms	Farms Operated by American Indians
Farms: (number)	377	138	
Land in farms (acres)	1,989,372	838,738	
Average size of farms (acres)	5,277	6,078	
Farms by size: (number)			
Less than 1,000 acres	196	89	
1,000 acres or more	181	49	
Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number)			
Less than \$100,000	274	124	
\$100,000 or more	103	14	
Farms by type of organization: (number)			
Family, Individual, Partnership	336	130	
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	41	8	
Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested			
Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)			
Cattle and calves	57,297	9,842	
Hogs and pigs	(D)	-	
Sheep and lambs	(D)	-	
Horses and ponies	3,031	1,571	
Bison	1,981	(D)	
Chickens (layers and broilers)	251	(D)	
Crops Harvested (acres)			
Corn for grain	(D)	-	
Corn for silage or greenchop	2,061	-	
Wheat for grain, All	75,488	2,840	
Winter wheat for grain	59,717	(D)	
Durum wheat for grain	-	-	
Spring wheat for grain	15,771	(D)	
Barley for grain	8,264	-	
Oats for grain	670	(D)	
Sunflower seed, All	-	-	
Soybeans for beans	(D)	-	
Hay, haylage, grass silage	43,052	8,287	
Operator Demographics			
Primary occupation: (number)			
Farming	341	69	
Other	218	107	
Place of residence: (number)			
On farm operated	453	147	
Not on farm operated	106	29	
Years on present farm: (number)			
Less than 10 years	177	55	
10 years or more	384	121	
Age group: (number)			
Under 55 years	349	112	
55 years and over	210	64	
Average age of all operators: (number)		50.9	51.2

(D) = Not Disclosable  
Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service



## Crow Reservation - Distribution of Income by Family and Household from Census 2000



*Household Income: This includes the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the householder or not. Because many households consist of only one person, average household income is usually less than average family income.*  
*Family Income: In compiling statistics on family income, the income of all members 15 years old and over related to the householder are summed and treated as a single amount.*  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

## Crow Reservation - Educational Attainment Population 25 Years and Older

Educational Attainment	Total	American Indian
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	30.5%	29.8%
Associate Degree	5.6%	5.2%
Bachelor's Degree	10.4%	7.9%
Master's Degree	2.3%	1.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

## Owner and Renter Occupied Housing Units

Housing	Total	American Indian
Owner Occupied	71.3%	70.5%
Renter Occupied	28.7%	29.5%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.

## Crow Reservation - Labor Force Statistics

The table below provides labor force statistics from three separate sources. The reader will notice some of the numbers are dissimilar, owing to the differing definitions and statistical techniques used by each source. These differences are explained below:

### Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
- Unemployment rates produced by MT Department of Labor
- Labor Force definition
  - Civilian, non-institutional population 16 years and older
  - The sum of Employment and Unemployment
- Employment definition
  - Did any work as paid employees
  - Worked in their own business, profession, or farm
  - Worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family owned enterprise
- Unemployment definition
  - Have not worked during monthly survey period (usually the week containing the 12th of the month)
  - Available for work
  - Actively seeking a job during last four weeks
- Unemployment Rate definition
  - Equal to the number of Unemployed divided by number in the Labor Force

### U.S. Census Bureau:

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
- Uses the same definitions for Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment as BLS
- Self-reported every ten years
- Rate reflects employment status as of April 1st, 2000

### Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the tribe, not the reservation.
- Labor Force definition
  - Number of tribal members between 16 and 64 years old
  - Available for work
- Employment definition
  - Not disabled or incarcerated
  - Tribal members working for money
- Unemployment definition
  - Calculated by subtracting Employment from Labor Force

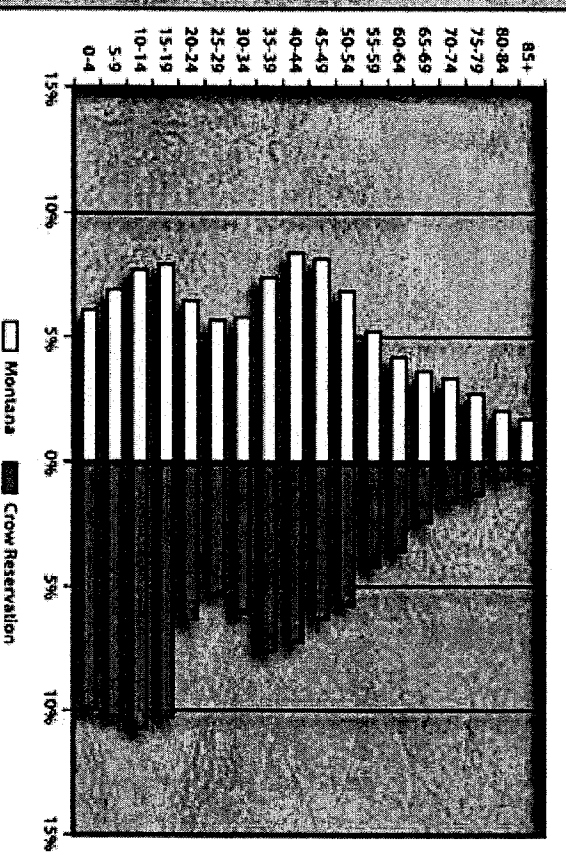
	Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemp. Rate
Montana Department of Labor and Industry	2005	2,886	2,527	359	12.4%
U.S. Census Bureau	2000	2,786	2,310	476	17.1%
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs	2005	4,593	2,455	2,138	46.5%

## Crow Reservation - Occupation by Gender Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Over

Occupation	Total	American Indian
<b>Total:</b>	2,310	1,535
<b>Male:</b>	1,112	683
Management, professional, and related occupations	392	172
Service occupations	265	228
Sales and office occupations	94	59
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	78	11
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	184	144
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	99	69
<b>Female:</b>	1,198	852
Management, professional, and related occupations	415	267
Service occupations	344	278
Sales and office occupations	377	286
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	11	0
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	12	9
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	39	12

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Crow Reservation - Population Pyramid Percent of Total Reservation Population by Age Group



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Crow Wage & Salary Employment Annual Averages 2005

Industry	Average Employment	Average Annual Wages Per Job
<b>Total</b>	1,544	\$27,930
<b>Total Private</b>	275	\$17,546
Goods Producing	17	\$31,165
Service Providing	258	\$16,645
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	113	\$15,725
Retail Trade	90	\$9,831
Gasoline Stations	40	\$10,256
Professional and Business Services	12	\$25,204
Professional, Scientific, and Tech. Services	12	\$25,204
Leisure and Hospitality	77	\$15,748
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	65	\$16,670
Accommodation and Food Services	12	\$10,650
<b>Total Government</b>	1,269	\$30,183
Federal Government	463	\$47,966
State Government	10	\$21,618
Local Government	796	\$19,949

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Note: This data is based on the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) series which compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance. Some sectors are not shown to preserve confidentiality of individual businesses.



## American Indian and Total Population for Fort Belknap Reservation and Related Areas

American Indian Population						
Geography	Census	Estimates				
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Fort Belknap Reservation	2,790	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Blaine County	3,180	3,081	3,118	3,125	3,114	3,182
Fort Belknap Agency CDP*	1,207	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hays CDP*	664	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lodge Pole CDP*	207	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Phillips County	350	335	317	312	306	291

	Total Population					
	Census	Estimates				
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Geography						
Fort Belknap Reservation	2,959	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Blaine County	7,009	6,824	6,816	6,765	6,673	6,629
Fort Belknap Agency CDP*	1,262	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hays CDP*	702	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lodge Pole CDP*	214	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Phillips County	4,601	4,448	4,353	4,263	4,240	4,179

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

\*Census designated places (CDPs) are delineated for each decennial census as the statistical counterparts of incorporated places. CDPs are delineated to provide data for settled concentrations of population that are identifiable by name but are not legally incorporated under the laws of the state in which they are located. The boundaries usually are defined in cooperation with local and tribal officials. These boundaries, which usually coincide with visible features or the boundary of an adjacent incorporated place or other legal entity boundary, have no legal status, nor do these places have officials elected to serve traditional municipal functions.

n/a = Not available

## Fort Belknap Information



Tribal Council President  
Julia Dorsey



Governor  
Brian Schweitzer

Tribes: Gros Ventre and Assiniboine

Tribal Address:  
Fort Belknap Community Council  
RR1, Box 66, Harlem, MT 59526  
Ph: 406-353-2205  
[www.fortbelknapnation-nsn.gov](http://www.fortbelknapnation-nsn.gov)

Fort Belknap College:  
P.O. Box 159, Harlem, MT 59526  
Ph: 406-353-2607  
[www.fbcc.edu](http://www.fbcc.edu)

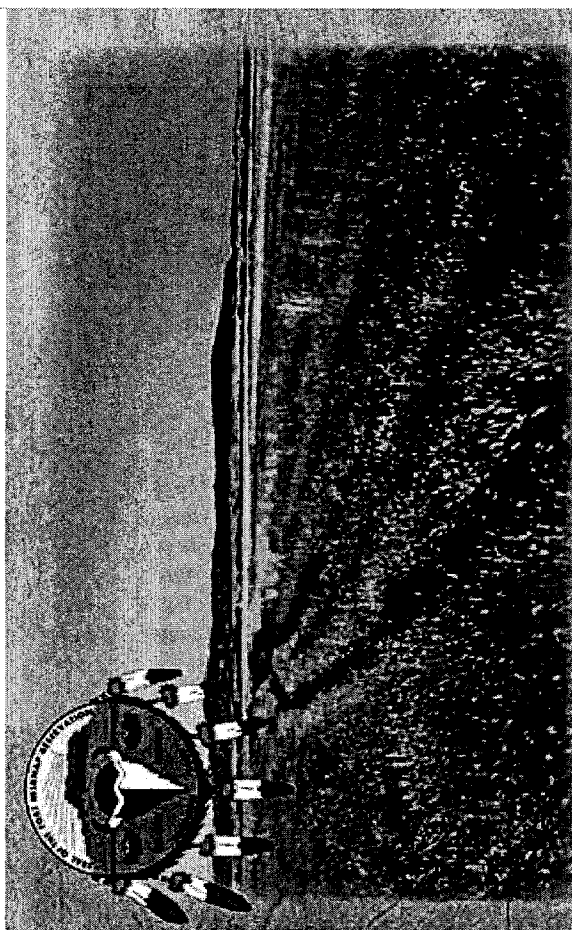
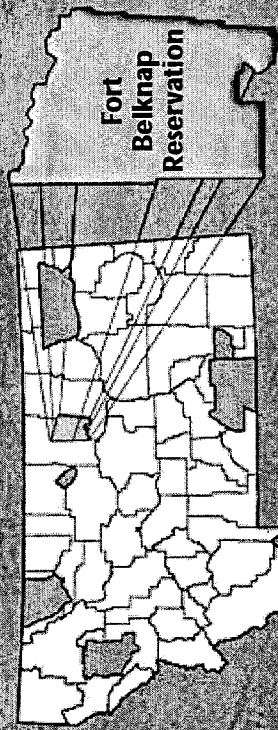


photo courtesy of State and Park Offices

## Demographic & Economic Information for Fort Belknap Reservation



Center and Economic Information Center  
Montana Department of Commerce  
P.O. Box 200595, Helena, MT 59620-0505  
Ph: (406) 841-2740 Fax: (406) 841-2731  
E-mail: [ceric@mt.gov](mailto:ceric@mt.gov)  
Website: [www.ceric.mt.gov](http://www.ceric.mt.gov)



RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU  
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY  
Research & Analysis Bureau  
Montana Department of Labor & Industry  
P.O. Box 1728, Helena, MT 59624-1728  
Ph: (406) 444-2430 or (800) 541-3904 Fax: (406) 444-2638  
E-mail: [webmaster@mt.gov](mailto:webmaster@mt.gov)  
Website: [www.factsyourfuture.org](http://www.factsyourfuture.org)



State Tribal Economic Development Commission  
Governor's Office of Indian Affairs  
State Capitol  
Helena, MT 59620-0801

Have questions or comments? Please contact Tyler Turner at (406) 444-2992

# Fort Belknap Reservation

The Fort Belknap Reservation, anchored in Fort Belknap Agency, is the fifth largest reservation in the state, encompassing 651,648 acres of rolling plains, river breaks and the Little Rocky Mountain range. It is home to 3,115 (49%) of the 6,304 Gros Ventre and Assiniboine tribal members.

The majority of employment is provided by the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine tribes, which employs 291 full time and 74 part time workers in tribal government. Tribally owned businesses, such as the Little Rockies Meat Packing Plant, employ as many as 6-12 employees. The Fort Belknap College employs 55 staff members, and averages 20-30 graduates per year.

In October 2002, the Fort Belknap Indian Community (FBIC) launched the Fort Belknap 477 Employment and Training Program. The program integrates five tribal programs to provide comprehensive education, work-based learning, employment training, and related services that help individuals, families, and the community to overcome barriers to self-sufficiency. Six hundred and forty families participated in this vital program in 2005.

Little Rockies Meat Packing, Inc. (LRMI) is one of many partners in the program. The Employment and Training program helped provide 4-6 meat cutting trainees at start-up, two of whom are now permanently placed. Acquisition of the tribally owned meat packing facility occurred in 2002, USDA certification followed suit in 2003, and today LRMI is helping another spin off enterprise. Pride of the Little Rockies, a smoke house that will prepare smoked meat products (jerky, sausage, and meat sticks utilizing the beef and buffalo processed at LRMI).

Pride of the Little Rockies was given a financial boost with a \$450,000 Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Native Americans grant award to renovate an existing tribal facility. This, in turn, will create 10-12 new full time jobs from the Employment and Training Program pool of individuals trained in Job Readiness and production/preparation.

FBIC is committed to career development from K-12, to postsecondary, to adult education with programs such as Talent Search (career awareness), Upward Bound (summer program with emphasis on Higher Ed), and the Tribal Business Information Center (entrepreneurial development). With nearly 29% of the population below the age of 18, the tribes realize they must continually build economic opportunities for the future. Currently the tribes are slated to begin construction on a \$3 million water treatment facility this fall, have completed feasibility studies for alternative energy development (ethanol), and continue to attract tourism by offering big game and recreational hunting guides and outfitters.

Author: Michelle Robinson, DLI Commissioner's Office

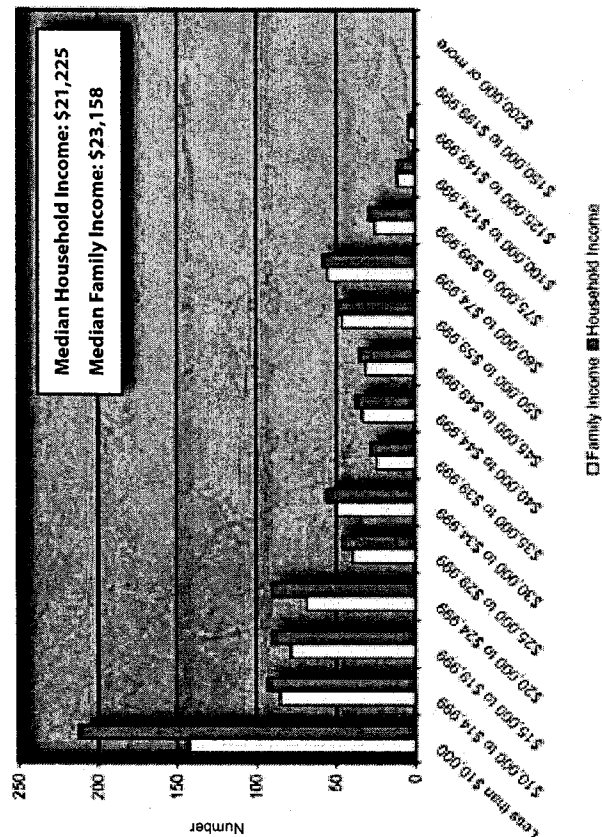
## Fort Belknap Reservation - Agricultural Statistics 2002 Census of Agriculture

	Farms		Farms Operated by All Farms American Indians	
Farms (number)	236	53		
Land in farms (acres)	829,926	634,270		
Average size of farms (acres)	6,859	7,642		
Farms by size (number)				
Less than 1,000 acres	48	37		
1,000 acres or more	73	46		
Farms by value of products sold and government payments received (number)				
Less than \$100,000	93	74		
\$100,000 or more	28	9		
Farms by type of organization (number)				
Family, Individual, Partnership	108	78		
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	13	5		
Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested				
Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)				
Cattle and calves	16,026	6,228		
Hogs and pigs	(D)	-		
Sheep and lambs	571	(D)		
Horses and ponies	647	512		
Bison	(D)	(D)		
Chickens (layers and broilers)	0	0		
Crops Harvested (acres)				
Corn for grain	-	-		
Corn for silage or greenchop	-	-		
Wheat for grain, All	43,985	15,246		
Winter wheat for grain	(D)	-		
Durum wheat for grain	(D)	-		
Spring wheat for grain	42,422	15,246		
Barley for grain	1,295	605		
Oats for grain	(D)	-		
Sunflower seed, All	-	-		
Soybeans for beans	-	-		
Hay, haylage, grass silage	17,608	6,195		
Operator Demographics				
Primary occupation (number)				
Farming	114	55		
Other	83	56		
Place of residence (number)				
On farm operated	155	90		
Not on farm operated	42	21		
Years on present farm (number)				
Less than 10 years	51	26		
10 years or more	146	85		
Age group (number)				
Under 55 years	112	62		
55 years and over	85	49		
Average age of all operators (number)	52.8	53.2		

(D) = Not Disclosable  
Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service



## Fort Belknap Reservation - Distribution of Income by Family and Household from Census 2000



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

**Household Income:** This includes the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the householder or not. Because many households consist of only one person, average household income is usually less than average family income.

**Family Income:** In compiling statistics on family income, the incomes of all members 15 years old and over related to the householder are summed and treated as a single amount.

## Owner and Renter Occupied Housing Units

Housing	Total	American Indian
Owner Occupied	53.3%	54.4%
Renter Occupied	46.7%	45.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Fort Belknap Reservation - Labor Force Statistics

The table below provides labor force statistics from three separate sources. The reader will notice some of the numbers are dissimilar, owing to the differing definitions and statistical techniques used by each source. These differences are explained below:

### Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
- Unemployment rates produced by MT Department of Labor
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  - Worked in their own business, profession, or farm
- Unemployment definition
  - Worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family owned enterprise
  - Have not worked during monthly survey period (usually the week containing the 12th of the month)
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  - Equal to the number of Unemployed divided by number in the Labor Force

### U.S. Census Bureau:

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
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- Self-reported every ten years
- Rate reflects employment status as of April 1st, 2000

### Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the tribe, not the reservation.
- Labor Force definition
  - Number of tribal members between 16 and 64 years old
  - Available for work
  - Not disabled or incarcerated
- Employment definition
  - Tribal members working for money
- Unemployment definition
  - Calculated by subtracting Employment from Labor Force

	Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemp. Rate
Montana Department of Labor and Industry*	2005	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
U.S. Census Bureau	2000	1,086	836	250	23.0%
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs	2005	2,794	849	1,945	69.6%

\*Rates for Fort Belknap cannot be calculated due to lack of unemployment insurance data.



## Fort Belknap Reservation - Occupation by Gender Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Over

Occupation	Total	American Indians
<b>Total:</b>	836	769
<b>Male:</b>	408	374
Mgmt., professional, and related occupations	121	98
Service occupations	89	87
Sales and office occupations	24	24
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	15	15
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occs.	100	91
Production, transport., and material moving occs.	59	59
<b>Female:</b>	428	395
Management, professional, and related occs.	185	165
Service occupations	92	92
Sales and office occupations	149	136
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	2	2
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occs.	0	0
Production, transport., and material moving occs.	0	0

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Fort Belknap Reservation - Educational Attainment Population 25 Years and Older

Educational Attainment	Total	American Indian
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	18.0%	17.7%
Associate Degree	13.9%	14.5%
Bachelor's Degree	9.1%	8.1%
Master's Degree	3.1%	2.3%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Fort Belknap Wage & Salary Employment Annual Averages 2005

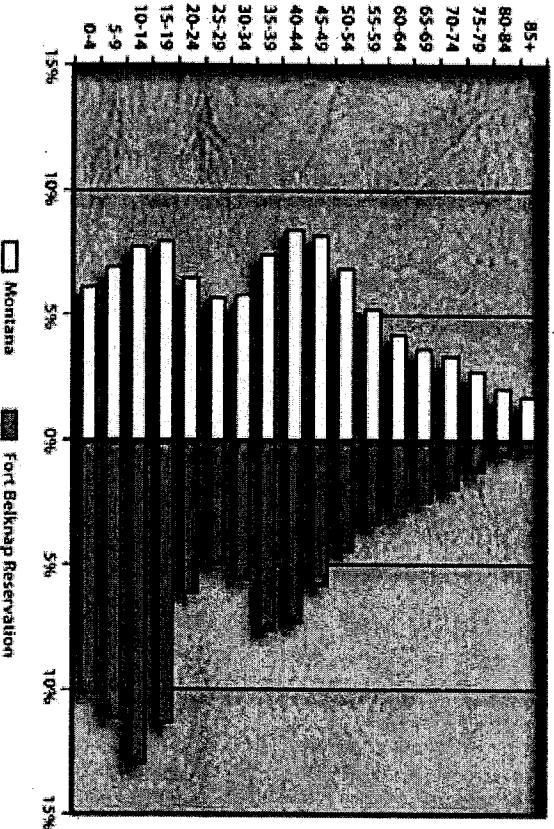
Industry	Average Employment	Average Annual Wages Per Job
<b>Total</b>	333	\$33,880
<b>Total Private</b>	28	\$13,321
Service Providing	28	\$13,321
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	13	\$12,758
Retail Trade	13	\$12,758
<b>Total Government</b>	305	\$35,721
Federal Government	148	\$46,051
Local Government*	157	\$25,984

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

\*Does not include Fort Belknap Tribal Government

Note: This data is based on the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) series which compile data reported by all employers covered under Montana's unemployment insurance. Some sectors are not shown to preserve confidentiality of individual businesses.

## Fort Belknap Reservation - Population Pyramid Percent of Total Reservation Population by Age Group



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## American Indian and Total Population for Flathead Reservation and Related Areas

American Indian Population							Total Population						
Census		Estimates					Census		Estimates				
Geography	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	Geography	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Flathead Reservation	6,999	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Flathead Reservation	26,172	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Flathead County	856	915	920	966	979	1,021	Flathead County	74,471	76,100	77,449	79,435	81,114	83,172
Niarada CDP**	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Niarada CDP**	50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lake County	6,396	6,485	6,457	6,557	6,615	6,656	Lake County	26,507	26,948	26,997	27,370	27,915	28,297
Arlee CDP*	301	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Arlee CDP*	602	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Big Arm CDP*	40	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Big Arm CDP*	131	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Charlie CDP*	78	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Charlie CDP*	439	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dayton CDP*	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Dayton CDP*	95	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Elmo CDP*	97	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Elmo CDP*	143	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Finley Point CDP*	69	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Finley Point CDP*	493	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Jette CDP*	10	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Jette CDP*	267	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kerr CDP*	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Kerr CDP*	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kicking Horse CDP*	37	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Kicking Horse CDP*	80	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Kings Point CDP*	14	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Kings Point CDP*	169	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Niarada CDP**	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Niarada CDP**	50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Pablo CDP*	928	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Pablo CDP*	1,814	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Polson	651	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Polson	4,041	4,219	4,320	4,521	4,680	4,828
Ravalli CDP*	33	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Ravalli CDP*	119	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rocky Point CDP*	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Rocky Point CDP*	107	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Ronan	599	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Ronan	1,812	1,864	1,888	1,905	1,948	1,968
St. Ignatius	352	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	St. Ignatius	788	797	793	799	812	823
Turtle Lake CDP*	173	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Turtle Lake CDP*	194	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Missoula County	2,193	2,258	2,397	2,414	2,436	2,480	Missoula County	95,802	96,684	97,792	98,435	99,063	100,086
Evato CDP*	147	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Evato CDP*	329	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sanders County	485	491	514	500	493	497	Sanders County	10,227	10,456	10,433	10,515	10,896	11,057
Dixon CDP*	44	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Dixon CDP*	216	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hot Springs	53	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Hot Springs	531	539	537	540	557	565
LonePine CDP*	7	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	LonePine CDP*	137	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Niarada CDP**	17	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	Niarada CDP**	50	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Source: U.S. Census Bureau  
 \*Census designated places (CDPs) are delineated for each decennial census as the statistical counterparts of incorporated places. CDPs are delineated to provide data for critical concentrations of population, but are identifiable by name but are not legally incorporated under the laws of the state in which they are located. The boundaries usually are defined in cooperation with local and tribal officials. These boundaries, which usually coincide with visible features or the boundary of an adjacent incorporated place or other legal entity boundary, have no legal status, nor do they place any officials elected to serve traditional municipal functions.  
 \*\*Not available

## Flathead Reservation Information

Tribes: Salish, Pend d'Oreille, and Kootenai

Tribe Address: Salish & Kootenai Tribes, P.O. Box 276, Pablo, MT 59855, www.eskt.org

Salish Kootenai College, 52000 Hwy 93, P.O. Box 70, Pablo, MT 59855, (406) 275-4800, www.skc.edu



Tribal Chairman  
James Steele Jr.



Governor  
Brian Schweitzer

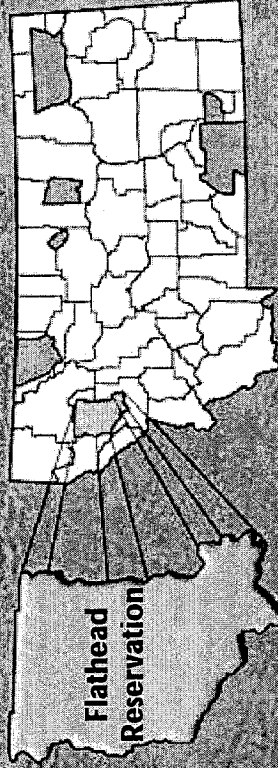
Newsletter:  
Ghar-Kootsa News, www.gharkootsa.com

Chambers of Commerce:  
Polson Chamber of Commerce  
www.polsonchamber.com

Ronan Chamber of Commerce  
glacier.visitmt.com/categories/ronanlife.asp?DRRecordID=800&SiteID=3

St. Ignatius and Hot Springs have Chambers of Commerce but no web sites.

## Demographic & Economic Information for Flathead Reservation



RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU  
 MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY  
 RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU

Research & Analysis Bureau  
 Montana Department of Labor & Industry  
 P.O. Box 1728, Helena, MT 59624-1728

Ph: (406) 444-2430 or (800) 541-3904 Fax: (406) 444-2638  
 E-mail: webmaster@mt.gov  
 Website: www.ourfuture.org

Census and Economic Information Center  
 Montana Department of Commerce  
 P.O. Box 200-505, Helena, MT 59620-505

Ph: (406) 841-2740 Fax: (406) 841-2731  
 E-mail: celc@mt.gov  
 Website: www.celc.mt.gov

Have questions or comments? Please contact Tyler Turner at (406) 444-2992



State Tribal Economic Development Commission  
 Governor's Office of Indian Affairs  
 State Capitol  
 Helena, MT 59620-0801



# Flathead Reservation

The Flathead reservation, headquartered in Pablo, is the fourth largest reservation in Montana, encompassing 1,244,000 acres in four counties, and is home to 4,550 (64.5%) of the 7,052 enrolled Confederated Salish and Kootenai tribal members (CSKT).

CSKT makes considerable efforts to support a diversified economy by providing opportunities for members who have a variety of assets, skill levels, and experiences in tribally owned businesses and privately owned non-member industries. The majority of employment is provided by the CSKT Tribes - supporting more than 1,000 employees (with an average bi-weekly payroll of \$1.3 million) in a variety of tribally owned businesses and government. Additionally, Salish Kootenai College hosts 345 employees, S&K Electronics (105 employees), St. Luke's Hospital and Health Care Network (308 employees), St. Joseph's Hospital (180 employees), The New Jore (196 employees), Lake County Government (204 employees), public schools (totaling 588 employees), and S&K Technologies (243 employees) with 27 employees on the reservation and 216 employees worldwide (Alaska to Iraq).

The CSKT Department of Human Resources Development invests substantial funds in workforce development in the form of work experience contracts for low-income persons and on the job training contracts with local employers, who in turn make a commitment to the employee for employment based upon the performance of the participant. From October 2004 to September 2005, there were 268 active work experience participants (gaining an average wage of \$6.18) and 23 on-the-job training participants (gaining an average wage of \$9.39).

CSKT's youth population (under 18) represents 26.5% of the on-reservation population. The CSKT Tribal Education Department works with 25 school facilities within the seven school districts in providing financial incentives to the nearly 800 seventh to twelfth grade students for academic achievement and attendance. In the 2004-2005 school year, the tribes paid \$22,900 in semester incentives and \$6,400 (\$200 x 32 members) to students who graduated from high school in 2005. In 2005, the CSKT Tribal Council enacted the most important piece of legislation, requiring enrolled members with Individual Indian Money accounts<sup>1</sup> to complete high school or obtain a GED and complete 20 hours of financial literacy prior to accessing their accounts at age 18. Additional incentives include scholarships to youth pursuing post secondary education - emphasizing the tribes' investment in workforce development endeavors - with \$84,7370 awarded in the 2004-2005 school year.

In supporting a diversified economy, CSKT Department of Human Resources Development offers training in a variety of professions including customer service, hospitality, construction, road crews, family financial education, technologies, adult basic ed, natural resources, and entrepreneurial development. With a portion of the membership still heavily invested in agriculture, many tribal members have begun "bundling" ag occupations into a livelihood of production in furniture manufacturing, berry harvesting, and native crafts.

<sup>1</sup>The tribes reserve 1/2 of a youth's per capita income as part of a strategy that ensures funds for the future to dedicate to an education, home, business development, etc. The per capita income is solely derived from tribal revenues.

Author: Michelle Robinson, DLI Commissioner's Office

## Flathead Reservation - Agricultural Statistics 2002 Census of Agriculture

Farms Operated by  
All Farms American Indians

Farms		
Farms (number)	931	155
Land in farms (acres)	889,986	489,867
Average size of farms (acres)	956	3,160
Farms by size: (number)		
Less than 1,000 acres	810	124
1,000 acres or more	121	31
Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number)		
Less than \$100,000	844	144
\$100,000 or more	87	11
Farms by type of organization: (number)		
Family, Individual, Partnership	870	139
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	61	16

### Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested

Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)		
Cattle and calves	52,840	9,594
Hogs and pigs	102	48
Sheep and lambs	1,771	440
Horses and ponies	4,156	793
Bison	932	380
Chickens (layers and broilers)	1,320	110
Crops Harvested (acres)		
Corn for grain	(D)	-
Corn for silage or greenchop	700	-
Wheat for grain, All	7,333	370
Winter wheat for grain	(D)	(D)
Durum wheat for grain	(D)	-
Spring wheat for grain	5,030	(D)
Barley for grain	2,114	623
Oats for grain	924	335
Sunflower seed, All	-	-
Soybeans for beans	-	-
Hay, haylage, grass silage	70,665	13,430

### Operator Demographics

Primary occupation: (number)		
Farming	772	93
Other	670	97
Place of residence: (number)		
On farm operated	1,299	163
Not on farm operated	143	27
Years on present farm: (number)		
Less than 10 years	503	70
10 years or more	939	120
Age group: (number)		
Under 55 years	839	131
55 years and over	603	59
Average age of operators: (number)	52.5	51.6

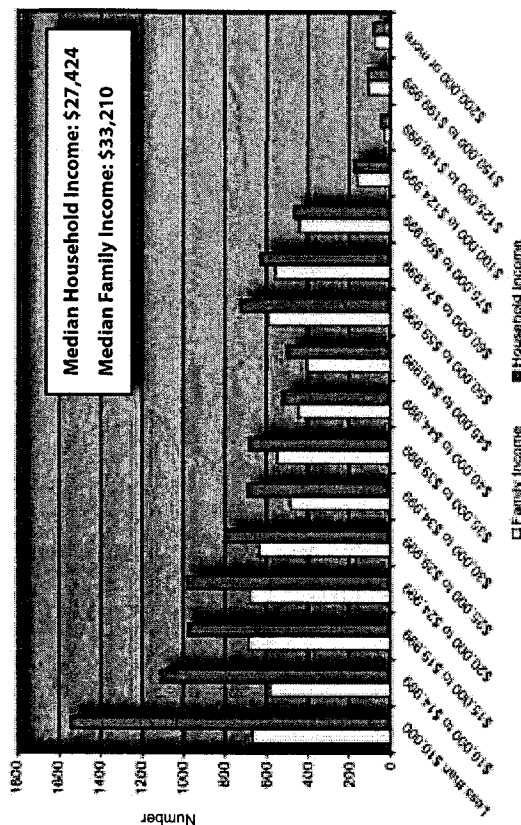
Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

## Owner and Renter Occupied Housing Units

Housing		
Owner Occupied	70.6%	59.3%
Renter Occupied	29.4%	40.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Flathead Reservation - Distribution of Income by Family and Household from Census 2000



**Household Income:** This includes the income of the householder and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the householder or not. Because many households consist of only one person, average household income is usually less than average family income.

**Family Income:** In compiling statistics on family income, the income of all members 15 years old and over related to the householder are summed and treated as a single amount.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Flathead Reservation - Occupation by Gender Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Over

Occupation	Total	American Indian
<b>Total:</b>	10,945	2,252
<b>Male:</b>	5,484	1,069
Management, professional, and related occupations	1,585	215
Service occupations	518	166
Sales and office occupations	667	91
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	365	78
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	1,166	263
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	1,183	256
<b>Female:</b>	5,461	1,183
Management, professional, and related occupations	1,817	335
Service occupations	1,231	313
Sales and office occupations	1,820	368
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	131	29
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	60	33
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	402	105

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Flathead Reservation - Labor Force Statistics

The table below provides labor force statistics from three separate sources. The reader will notice some of the numbers are dissimilar, owing to the differing definitions and statistical techniques used by each source. These differences are explained below:

### Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
- Unemployment rates produced by MT Department of Labor
- Labor Force definition
  - Civilian, non-institutional population 16 years and older
  - The sum of Employment and Unemployment
- Employment definition
  - Did any work as paid employees
  - Worked in their own business, profession, or farm
  - Worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family owned enterprise
- Unemployment definition
  - Have not worked during monthly survey period (usually the week containing the 12th of the month)
  - Available for work
  - Actively seeking a job during last four weeks
- Unemployment Rate definition
  - Equal to the number of Unemployed divided by number in the Labor Force

### U.S. Census Bureau:

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
- Uses the same definitions for Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment as BLS
- Self-reported every ten years
- Rate reflects employment status as of April 1st, 2000

### Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the tribe, not the reservation.
- Labor Force definition
  - Number of tribal members between 16 and 64 years old
  - Available for work
  - Not disabled or incarcerated
- Employment definition
  - Tribal members working for money
- Unemployment definition
  - Calculated by subtracting Employment from Labor Force

	Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemp. Rate
Montana Department of Labor and Industry	2005	11,524	10,828	696	6.0%
U.S. Census Bureau	2000	11,878	10,945	933	7.9%
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs	2005	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## Flathead Reservation - Educational Attainment Population 25 Years and Older

Educational Attainment	Total	American Indian
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	33.0%	31.5%
Associate Degree	6.1%	8.3%
Bachelor's Degree	14.6%	6.9%
Master's Degree	3.8%	2.8%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000



## Flathead Wage & Salary Employment Annual Averages 2005

Industry	Average Employment	Average Annual Wages Per Job
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,999</b>	<b>\$25,212</b>
Total Private	5,443	\$22,638
Goods Producing	1,247	\$28,157
Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting	69	\$21,804
Crop Production	33	\$15,586
Animal Production	2	\$22,207
Forestry and Logging	31	\$27,998
Support Activities for Agriculture and Forestry	4	\$25,297
Mining	31	\$37,240
Construction	394	\$25,493
Construction of Buildings	128	\$27,792
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	30	\$27,820
Specialty Trade Contractors	235	\$23,940
Manufacturing	752	\$29,782
Food Manufacturing	28	\$24,816
Wood Product Manufacturing	195	\$33,461
Transportation Equipment Manufacturing	12	\$20,851
Furniture and Related Product Manufacturing	23	\$22,838
Service Providing	4,197	\$21,000
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	1,406	\$21,879
Wholesale Trade	106	\$19,800
Merchant Wholesalers, Nondurable Goods	58	\$20,642
Retail Trade	1,167	\$19,622
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	211	\$27,005
Furniture and Home Furnishing Stores	19	\$25,770
Electronics and Appliance Stores	15	\$21,095
Building Materials and Garden and Equipment Supplies Dealers	126	\$22,064
Food and Beverage Stores	278	\$18,918
Health and Personal Care Stores	80	\$23,626
Gasoline Stations	174	\$12,972
Clothing and Clothing Accessories Stores	18	\$11,334
Sporting Goods, Hobby, Book, and Music Stores	22	\$16,065
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	57	\$8,436
Information	91	\$36,632
Financial Activities	291	\$27,268
Finance and Insurance	239	\$29,332
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	205	\$30,174
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other Financial Investments and Related Activities	5	\$30,036
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	30	\$23,459
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	52	\$17,736
Real Estate	41	\$18,592
Rental and Leasing Services	10	\$14,319
Professional and Business Services	233	\$27,043
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	150	\$29,702
Education and Health Services	1,067	\$25,642
Educational Services	15	\$30,551
Health Care and Social Assistance	1,052	\$25,585
Ambulatory Health Care Services	224	\$38,622
Social Assistance	268	\$12,632

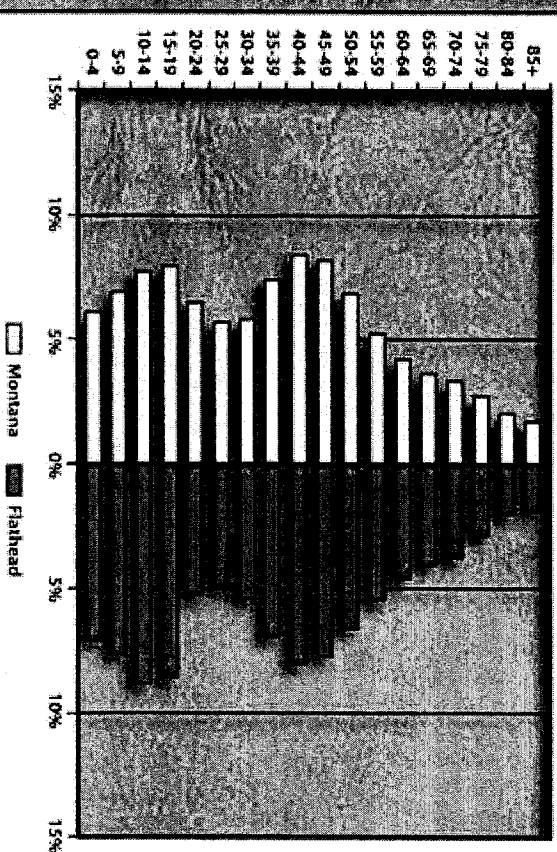
## Flathead Wage & Salary Employment Annual Averages 2005 (cont.)

Industry	Average Employment	Average Annual Wages Per Job
Leisure and Hospitality	913	\$10,261
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	82	\$13,883
Performing Arts, Spectator Sports, and Related Industries	7	\$18,264
Amusement, Gambling, and Recreation Industries	75	\$13,467
Accommodation and Food Services	832	\$9,902
Accommodation	158	\$11,730
Food Services and Drinking Places	674	\$9,473
Other Services	196	\$16,723
Repair and Maintenance	55	\$20,642
Personal and Laundry Services	23	\$15,281
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	104	\$12,807
Private Households	15	\$18,691
Total Government	2,556	\$30,694
Federal Government	101	\$42,775
State Government	110	\$32,642
Local Government	2,345	\$30,085
Local Government Education	1,143	\$27,405
Local Government Non-Education	1,203	\$32,630

Source: Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Note: Some sectors are not shown to preserve confidentiality of individual businesses.

## Flathead Reservation - Population Pyramid Percent of Total Reservation Population by Age Group



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## American Indian and Total Population for Rocky Boy's Reservation and Related Areas

Geography	American Indian Population				
	Census	2001	2002	2003	2005
Rocky Boy's Reservation	2,578	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Chouteau County	873	862	855	851	847
Boneau CDP*	185	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hill County	2,884	2,972	2,987	3,073	3,143
Agency CDP*	303	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Azure CDP*	241	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Parker School CDP*	344	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
St. Pierre CDP*	282	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sangrey CDP*	252	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Total Population</b>					
<b>Estimates</b>					
Census	2000	2001	2002	2003	2005
Rocky Boy's Reservation	2,576	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Chouteau County	5,970	5,772	5,644	5,585	5,463
Boneau CDP*	190	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Hill County	16,673	16,532	16,360	16,281	16,304
Agency CDP*	324	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Azure CDP*	253	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Parker School CDP*	352	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
St. Pierre CDP*	289	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sangrey CDP*	263	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

\*Census designated places (CDPs) are delineated for each decennial census with statistical counterparts of incorporated places. CDPs are delineated to provide data for settled concentrations of population that are identifiable by name but are not legally incorporated under the laws of the state in which they are located. The boundaries usually are defined in cooperation with local and tribal officials. These boundaries, which usually coincide with visible features or the boundary of an adjacent incorporated place or other legal entity boundary, have no legal status, nor do these places have officials elected to serve traditional municipal functions.

n/a = Not available

## Rocky Boy's Information

Tribes:  
Chippewa Cree

Tribe Address:

Chippewa Cree Tribal Council, RR1, Box 544, Box Elder, MT 59521, 406-395-4282

Stone Child College

RR1, Box 1082 Box Elder, MT 59521  
(406) 395-4313

www.montana.edu/wwwssc

Governor  
Brian Schweitzer

Tribal Chairman  
John Hovle

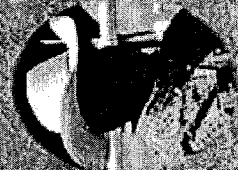
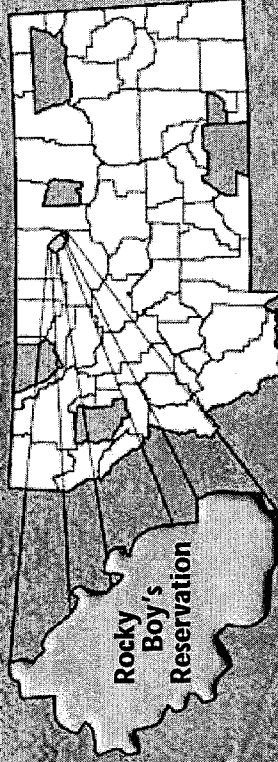


Photo courtesy of Susan G. Rick Green

## Demographic & Economic Information for Rocky Boy's Reservation



RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU  
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY

Census and Economic Information Center  
Montana Department of Commerce  
P.O. Box 200985, Helena, MT 59620-0505  
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E-mail: ceic@mt.gov  
Website: www.ceic.mt.gov

Research & Analysis Bureau  
Montana Department of Labor & Industry  
P.O. Box 1728, Helena, MT 59624-1728  
Ph: (406) 444-2630 or (800) 541-3904 Fax: (406) 444-2638  
E-mail: webmaster@mt.gov  
Website: www.bulldozerfuture.org

State Tribal Economic Development Commission  
Governor's Office of Indian Affairs  
State Capitol  
Helena, MT 59620-0801

Have questions or comments? Please contact Tyler Turner at (406) 444-2992



# Rocky Boy's Reservation

The Rocky Boy's Reservation, located in north-central Montana, encompasses 122,000 acres of rolling high-plains grasslands to the sub-alpine mountains of the Bear Paw. Located nearly 50 miles south of the Alberta and Saskatchewan Canadian border, the reservation is home to 55% of the 5,656 enrolled Chippewa Cree tribal members.

The economy is primarily supported by agriculture and livestock. Wheat, barley, and cattle are raised on the tribally owned Dry Fork Farm and Ranch and Stone Man Farms. A key ingredient for continued agricultural and recreational development is water. The Chippewa Cree Tribal Construction Company is currently constructing a system that will transport water from the Tiber reservoir to the reservation and fulfill an objective of the North Central Montana Regional Water Coordinating Committee.

The majority of reservation residents work for the self-governing Chippewa Cree Tribe providing work to 241 residents. Compacts are maintained with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) and Indian Health Service providing two BIA employees and 91 staff member's opportunities within the Rocky Boy Health Board. Other employees include: Rocky Boy public schools (156), Stone Child Community College (56), Chippewa Cree Construction Company (28), Chippewa Cree Construction Corporation (16), National Tribal Development Association (9), RJS & Associates (4), and Chippewa Cree Housing Authority (30).

Stone Child Community College provides distance learning for its students, administers an endowment for undergraduate and graduate degree students, offers a teacher training program, and is developing a pre-engineering program for transfer to a baccalaureate. The Tribe coordinates with the college to ensure revitalization of the Chippewa Cree language, culture, values, and traditions respected by the community and leaders. Stone Child's completion of a Vo-Tech Center will provide the foundation for workforce development in construction technology, artistry and engineering and provide a skilled labor force for the Chippewa Cree Construction Company.

Stone Child, Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) and NorthWinz Casino (scheduled to open in January 2007) are partnering to train 34 employees for various casino positions. Negotiations for an ethanol plant and continued partnerships with the private sector provide many opportunities for social and economic development for the 37% of the reservations 18 and younger enrolled residents.

Author: Michelle Robinson, DLI Commissioner's Office

## Rocky Boy's Reservation - Agricultural Statistics 2002 Census of Agriculture

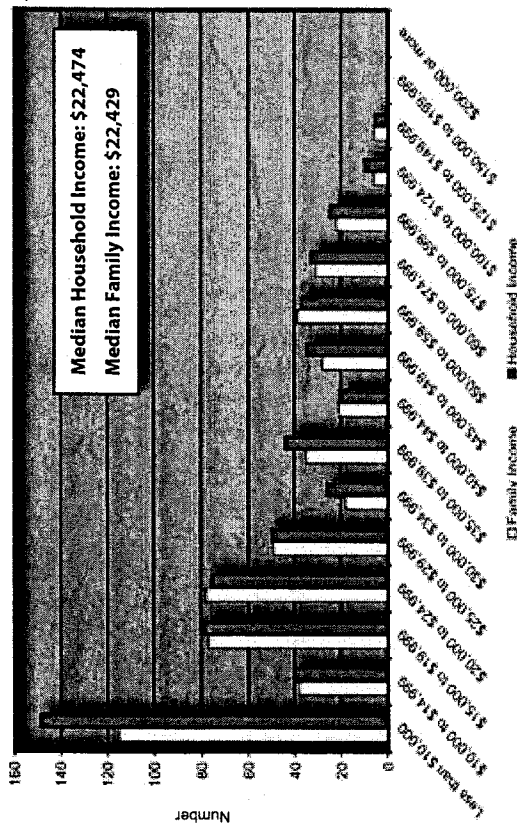
All Farms American Indians

Farms		
Farms: (number)	42	39
Land in farms (acres)	105,193	93,365
Average size of farms (acres)	2,505	2,394
Farms by size: (number)		
Less than 1,000 acres	29	29
1,000 acres or more	13	10
Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number)		
Less than \$100,000	39	37
\$100,000 or more	3	2
Farms by type of organization: (number)		
Family, Individual, Partnership	35	34
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	7	5
Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested		
Livestock and Poultry Inventory (number)		
Cattle and calves	2,213	2,213
Hogs and pigs	(D)	(D)
Sheep and lambs	-	-
Horses and ponies	347	347
Bison	(D)	(D)
Chickens (layers and broilers)	0	0
Crops Harvested (acres)		
Corn for grain	-	-
Corn for silage or greenchop	-	-
Wheat for grain, All	6,473	(D)
Winter wheat for grain	(D)	-
Durum wheat for grain	(D)	(D)
Spring wheat for grain	(D)	(D)
Barley for grain	(D)	(D)
Oats for grain	(D)	(D)
Sunflower seed, All	-	-
Soybeans for beans	-	-
Hay, haylage, grass silage	2,227	2,227
Operator Demographics		
Primary occupation: (number)		
Farming	24	19
Other	30	25
Place of residence: (number)		
On farm operated	47	39
Not on farm operated	7	5
Years on present farm: (number)		
Less than 10 years	22	17
10 years or more	32	27
Age group: (number)		
Under 55 years	40	32
55 years and over	14	12
Average age of operators: (number)		
	50.4	50.9

(D) Not Discorable

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

## Rocky Boy's Reservation - Distribution of Income by Family and Household from Census 2000



*Household Income: This includes the income of the household and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the household or not. Because many households consist of only one person, average household income is usually less than average family income.*  
*Family Income: In compiling statistics on family income, the income of all members 15 years old and over related to the household are summed and treated as a single amount.*

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Rocky Boy's Reservation - Educational Attainment Population 25 Years and Older

Educational Attainment	Total	American Indian
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	26.7%	26.6%
Associate Degree	14.3%	14.7%
Bachelor's Degree	6.6%	6.7%
Master's Degree	3.6%	3.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Rocky Boy's Reservation - Labor Force Statistics

The table below provides labor force statistics from three separate sources. The reader will notice some of the numbers are dissimilar, owing to the differing definitions and statistical techniques used by each source. These differences are explained below:

### Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
- Unemployment rates produced by MT Department of Labor
- Labor Force definition
  - Civilian, non-institutional population 16 years and older
  - The sum of Employment and Unemployment
- Employment definition
  - Did any work as paid employees
  - Worked in their own business, profession, or farm
  - Worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family owned enterprise
- Unemployment definition
  - Have not worked during monthly survey period (usually the week containing the 12th of the month)
  - Available for work
  - Actively seeking a job during last four weeks
- Unemployment Rate definition
  - Equal to the number of Unemployed divided by number in the Labor Force

### U.S. Census Bureau:

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
- Uses the same definitions for Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment as BLS
- Self-reported every ten years
- Rate reflects employment status as of April 1st, 2000

### Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the tribe, not the reservation.
- Labor Force definition
  - Number of tribal members between 16 and 64 years old
  - Available for work
  - Not disabled or incarcerated
- Employment definition
  - Tribal members working for money
- Unemployment definition
  - Calculated by subtracting Employment from Labor Force

	Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemp. Rate
Montana Department of Labor and Industry	2005	942	757	185	19.7%
U.S. Census Bureau	2000	952	682	270	28.4%
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs	2005	2,030	652	1,378	67.9%



## Rocky Boy's Reservation - Occupation by Gender

### Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Over

Occupation	Total	American Indian
<b>Total:</b>	<b>682</b>	<b>648</b>
<b>Male:</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>347</b>
Management, professional, and related occupations	97	87
Service occupations	119	115
Sales and office occupations	23	23
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	7	7
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	66	66
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	49	49
<b>Female:</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>301</b>
Management, professional, and related occupations	140	127
Service occupations	76	72
Sales and office occupations	87	87
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	0	0
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	0	0
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	18	15

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Owner and Renter Occupied Housing Units

Housing	Total	American Indian
Owner Occupied	40.8%	41.0%
Renter Occupied	59.2%	59.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Rocky Boy's Wage & Salary Employment

### Annual Averages 2005

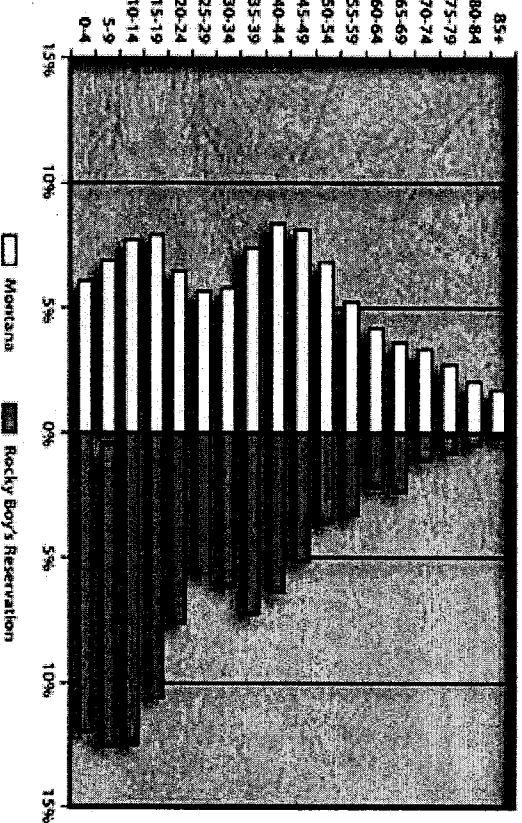
Industry	Average Employment	Average Annual Wages Per Job
<b>Total</b>	<b>746</b>	<b>\$32,006</b>
<b>Total Private</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>\$34,318</b>
<b>Total Government</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>\$31,907</b>
<b>Federal Government</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>\$38,053</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>\$31,875</b>
<b>Local Government Education</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>\$30,432</b>
<b>Local Government Non-Education</b>	<b>437</b>	<b>\$32,748</b>

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Note: This data is based on the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) series which compiles data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance. Some sectors are not shown to preserve confidentiality of individual businesses.

## Rocky Boy's Reservation - Population Pyramid

### Percent of Total Reservation Population by Age Group



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## American Indian and Total Population for Northern Cheyenne Reservation and Related Areas

	American Indian Population				
	Census	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>Geography</b>					
N. Cheyenne Reservation	4,029	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Big Horn County	7,560	7,623	7,677	7,717	7,879
Busby CDP*	622	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Muddy CDP*	591	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rosebud County	3,041	3,068	3,120	3,194	3,225
Ashland CDP*	349	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Binney CDP*	93	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lame Deer CDP*	1,866	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
<b>Total Population</b>					
	Census	2000	2001	2002	2003
<b>Geography</b>					
N. Cheyenne Reservation	4,470	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Big Horn County	12,671	12,817	12,829	12,897	13,149
Busby CDP*	695	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Muddy CDP*	627	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Rosebud County	9,383	9,270	9,273	9,311	9,212
Ashland CDP*	464	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Binney CDP*	108	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lame Deer CDP*	2,018	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

\*Census designated places (CDPs) are delineated for each decennial census as the statistical counterparts of incorporated places. CDPs are delineated to provide data for settled concentrations of population that are identifiable by name but are not legally incorporated under the laws of the state in which they are located. The boundaries usually are defined in cooperation with local and tribal officials. These boundaries, which usually coincide with visible features or the boundary of an adjacent incorporated place or other legal entity boundary, have no legal status, nor do these places have officials elected to serve traditional municipal functions.

n/a = Not available

## Northern Cheyenne Reservation Information

Tribe:  
Northern Cheyenne

Tribe Address:  
Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council, P.O.  
Box 128, Lame Deer, MT 59043, 406-477-  
6284, [www.ncheyenne.net](http://www.ncheyenne.net)

Chief Dull Knife College:  
P.O. Box 98, 1 College Drive, Lame Deer,  
MT 59043, 406-477-6215, [www.cdck.edu](http://www.cdck.edu)



Tribal Council President  
Eugene Little Coyote



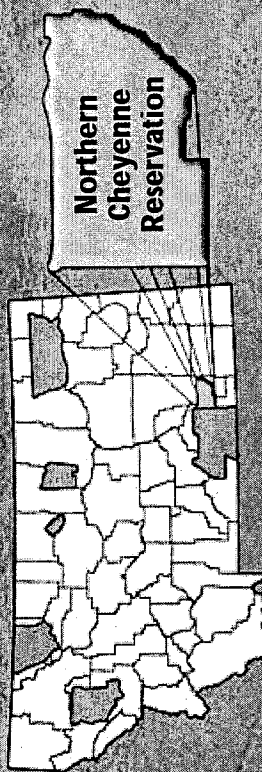
Governor  
Brian Schweitzer

Eugene Little Coyote photo by Larry Meyer, Billings Gazette.



photo courtesy of Susan & Rick Gratz

## Demographic & Economic Information for Northern Cheyenne Reservation



Census and Economic Information Center  
Montana Department of Commerce  
P.O. Box 209505, Helena, MT 59620-0505  
Ph: (406) 841-2240, Fax: (406) 841-2731  
E-mail: [ceic@mt.gov](mailto:ceic@mt.gov)  
Website: [www.ceic.mt.gov](http://www.ceic.mt.gov)

RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU  
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY

Research & Analysis Bureau  
Montana Department of Labor & Industry  
P.O. Box 1728, Helena, MT 59624-1728  
Ph: (406) 444-2430 or (800) 541-3904, Fax: (406) 444-2638  
E-mail: [webmaster@mt.gov](mailto:webmaster@mt.gov)  
Website: [www.mt.factsyourfuture.org](http://www.mt.factsyourfuture.org)

State Tribal Economic Development Commission  
Governor's Office of Indian Affairs  
State Capitol  
Helena, MT 59620-0801

Have questions or comments? Please contact Tyler Turner at (406) 444-2992.



# Northern Cheyenne Reservation

The Little Wolf Capitol Building, located in Lane Deer, Montana is Tribal headquarters. The Tribal homeland encompasses 445,000 acres of grass covered hills, narrow valleys and steep outcroppings - nestled between the Crow Reservation and the Tongue River Valley - and is home to nearly 55% of the Tribe's 9,043 enrolled members. Unlike most rural Montana communities, which are losing population, reservations such as Northern Cheyenne are experiencing an increase. According to Tribal Enrollment officials, nearly one-third (1,431) of the population residing on the reservation is below the age of 16.

Beneath the reservation's surface lies part of a coal belt stretching from southeast Montana into Wyoming that is estimated to contain 20 to 50 billion tons of a low-sulfur, relatively clean-burning coal. Legal, environmental and cultural issues involving the Tribe, private industry, and the US Government were decisive and influenced the Tribe's approach in the potential development of its coal, oil and gas resources on the reservation. In addition, the Tribe seeks to tap into renewable energy development projects including wind and solar.

Evolving out of the vocational education program or "Indian Action Program," Chief Dull Knife College (CDKC), an accredited community college, offered its first academic courses in the winter quarter of 1978. From its origins, CDKC offered students vocational training that would prepare them to enter and succeed in the skilled labor force. Many enrolled in such programs as Heavy Equipment Mechanics and Welding. Today, CDKC has expanded its curricular offerings to include an Associate of Arts degree, an Associate of Applied Science degree, and Vocational Certificates.

A recent initiative, of notable significance, is an effort to improve homeownership on the reservation. To bolster this undertaking the Tribal Council has adopted a new Mortgage Lending Code that provides the security for financial institutions to initiate more home loans for tribal members on the reservation.

The economy is primarily supported by federal government, tribal government, farming/ranching, and non-native/native owned businesses. The largest employers serving the reservation are the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, providing employment opportunities to 519 employees, Indian Health Service (104), Bureau of Indian Affairs (45), Chief Dull Knife College (61), Lane Deer Public Schools (85), Charging Horse Casino (33), Western Energy (41), and St. Labre Indian School (approx. 300).

Author: Michelle Robinson, DLI Commissioner's Office

## Northern Cheyenne Reservation Agricultural Statistics - 2002 Census of Agriculture

Farms Operated by  
All Farms American Indians

Farms		
Farms: (number)	64	50
Land in farms: (acres)	403,152	320,065
Average size of farms: (acres)	6,299	6,401
Farms by size: (number)		
Less than 1,000 acres	43	38
1,000 acres or more	21	12
Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number)		
Less than \$100,000	49	39
\$100,000 or more	15	11
Farms by type of organization: (number)		
Family, Individual, Partnership	59	46
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	5	4

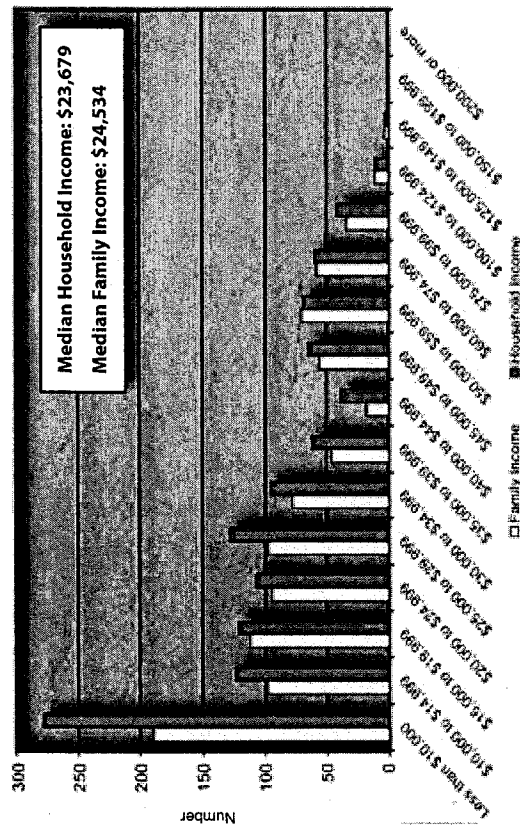
Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested		
Livestock and Poultry Inventory: (number)		
Cattle and calves	10,364	7,360
Hogs and pigs	-	-
Sheep and lambs	(D)	(D)
Horses and ponies	558	456
Bison	(D)	(D)
Chickens (layers and broilers)	0	0
Crops Harvested: (acres)		
Corn for grain	-	-
Corn for silage or greenchop	-	-
Wheat for grain: All	(D)	-
Winter wheat for grain	(D)	-
Durum wheat for grain	-	-
Spring wheat for grain	(D)	-
Barley for grain	(D)	-
Oats for grain	-	-
Sunflower seed: All	-	-
Soybeans for beans	-	-
Hay: haylage, grass silage	7,674	4,402

Operator Demographics		
Primary occupation: (number)		
Farming	48	30
Other	59	42
Place of residence: (number)		
On farm operated	85	52
Not on farm operated	22	20
Years on present farm: (number)		
Less than 10 years	23	15
10 years or more	84	57
Age group: (number)		
Under 55 years	65	43
55 years and over	42	29
Average age of operators: (number)	50.4	50.7

(D) Not Discorable

Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

## Northern Cheyenne Reservation - Distribution of Income by Family and Household from Census 2000



**Household Income:** This includes the income of the household and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the household or not. Because many households consist of only one person, average household income is usually less than average family income.

**Family Income:** In compiling statistics on family income, the incomes of all members 15 years old and over related to the household are summed and treated as a single amount.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Northern Cheyenne Reservation - Educational Attainment Population 25 Years and Older

Educational Attainment	Total	American Indian
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	27.9%	30.3%
Associate Degree	9.5%	9.8%
Bachelor's Degree	9.8%	6.7%
Master's Degree	2.5%	0.6%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Owner and Renter Occupied Housing Units

Housing	Total	American Indian
Owner Occupied	49.5%	52.3%
Renter Occupied	50.5%	47.7%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Northern Cheyenne Reservation - Labor Force Statistics

The table below provides labor force statistics from three separate sources. The reader will notice some of the numbers are dissimilar, owing to the differing definitions and statistical techniques used by each source. These differences are explained below:

### Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
- Unemployment rates produced by MT Department of Labor
- Labor Force definition
  - Civilian, non-institutional population 16 years and older
  - The sum of Employment and Unemployment
- Employment definition
  - Did any work as paid employees
  - Worked in their own business, profession, or farm
  - Worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family owned enterprise
- Unemployment definition
  - Have not worked during monthly survey period (usually the week containing the 12th of the month)
  - Available for work
  - Actively seeking a job during last four weeks
- Unemployment Rate definition
  - Equal to the number of Unemployed divided by number in the Labor Force

### U.S. Census Bureau:

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
- Uses the same definitions for Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment as BLS
- Self-reported every ten years
- Rate reflects employment status as of April 1st, 2000

### Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the tribe, not the reservation.
- Labor Force definition
  - Number of tribal members between 16 and 64 years old
  - Available for work
  - Not disabled or incarcerated
- Employment definition
  - Tribal members working for money
- Unemployment definition
  - Calculated by subtracting Employment from Labor Force

	Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemp. Rate
Montana Department of Labor and Industry	2005	1,499	1,288	231	15.4%
U.S. Census Bureau	2000	1,567	1,261	308	19.5%
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs	2005	2,927	1,177	1,750	59.8%

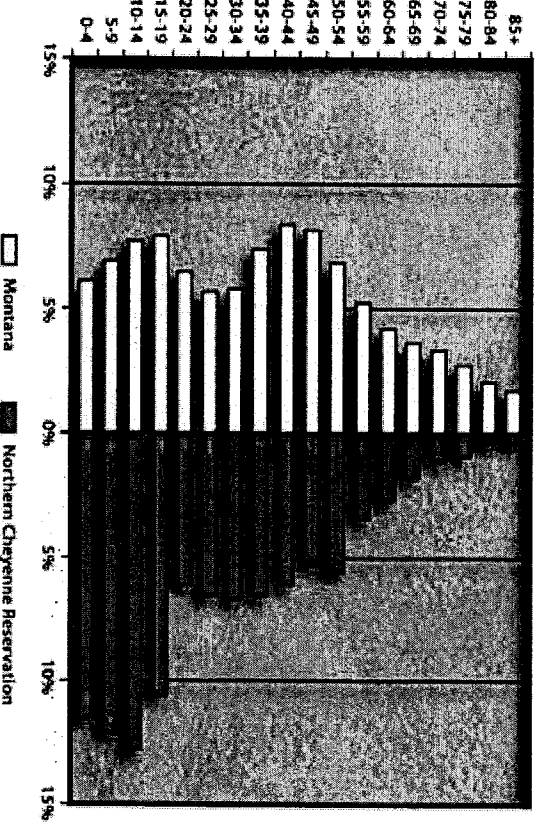


## Northern Cheyenne Reservation - Occupation by Gender Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Over

Occupation	Total	American Indian
<b>Total:</b>	1,261	987
<b>Male:</b>	648	506
Management, professional, and related occupations	207	127
Service occupations	148	144
Sales and office occupations	28	26
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	26	17
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	121	99
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	118	93
<b>Female:</b>	613	481
Management, professional, and related occupations	287	196
Service occupations	119	93
Sales and office occupations	181	168
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	4	4
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	0	0
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	22	20

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Northern Cheyenne Reservation - Population Pyramid Percent of Total Reservation Population by Age Group



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Northern Cheyenne Wage & Salary Employment Annual Averages 2005

Industry	Average Employment	Average Annual Wages Per Job
<b>Total</b>	1,367	\$27,000
<b>Total Private</b>	528	\$23,153
Goods Producing	6	\$28,762
Construction	6	\$28,762
Service Providing	522	\$23,091
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	76	\$11,926
Retail Trade	76	\$11,926
Professional and Business Services	12	\$15,223
Leisure and Hospitality	60	\$14,518
<b>Total Government</b>	839	\$29,419
Federal Government	185	\$45,041
State Government	2	\$47,292
Local Government	652	\$24,921
Local Government Education	251	\$28,185
Local Government Non-Education	401	\$22,882

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Note: This data is based on the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) series, which compile data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance. Some sectors are not shown to preserve confidentiality of individual businesses.

## American Indian and Total Population for Fort Peck Reservation and Related Areas

Geography	American Indian Population				
	Census	2000	2001	2002	2003
Fort Peck Reservation	6,391	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Daniels County	26	24	25	25	26
Roosevelt County	5,921	5,919	5,943	6,015	6,227
Brookton	208	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Poplar	580	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Wolf Point	1,079	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Sheridan County	50	51	49	50	55
Reserve CDP*	1	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Valley County	723	755	693	695	733
Frazer CDP*	418	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

Geography	Total Population				
	Census	2000	2001	2002	2003
Fort Peck Reservation	10,321	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Daniels County	2,017	2,014	1,934	1,918	1,847
Roosevelt County	10,620	10,573	10,432	10,416	10,576
Brookton	245	244	241	240	244
Poplar	911	907	896	894	906
Wolf Point	2,663	2,655	2,619	2,615	2,653
Sheridan County	4,105	3,947	3,806	3,657	3,524
Reserve CDP*	37	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Valley County	7,675	7,533	7,397	7,299	7,243
Frazer CDP*	452	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

\*Source: U.S. Census Bureau

\*Census designated places (CDPs) are delineated for each decennial census as the statistical counterparts of incorporated places. CDPs are delineated to provide data for settled concentrations of population that are identifiable by name but are not legally incorporated under the laws of the state in which they are located. The boundaries actually are defined in cooperation with local and tribal officials. These boundaries, which usually coincide with visible features or the boundary of an adjacent incorporated place or other legal entity boundary, have no legal status, nor do these places have officials elected to serve traditional municipal functions.

n/a = Not available

## Fort Peck Information

Tribes: Assiniboinne and Sioux

Tribe Address: Fort Peck Tribes, 501 Medicine Bear Road, P.O. Box 1027, Poplar, Montana 59255-1027, Phone: 406-768-5155, Fax: 406-768-5478, [www.fortpecktribes.org](http://www.fortpecktribes.org)

Fort Peck Community College, P.O. Box 398, Poplar, MT 59255, 406-768-6300, [www.fpecc.edu](http://www.fpecc.edu)

Newsletter: Wotamin Wovapi, [www.wotamin.com](http://www.wotamin.com)

Chamber of Commerce: Wolf Point Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture, 218 Third Ave. S., #B, Wolf Point, MT 59201, 406-653-2012, [www.wolfpoint.com](http://www.wolfpoint.com)

Chief Chairman  
John Morales Jr.

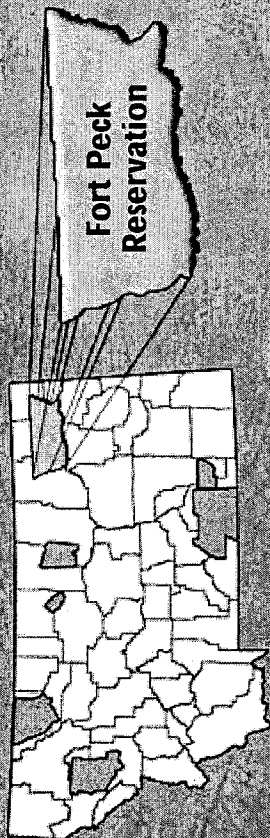
Governor  
Brian Schweitzer



photo courtesy of State and Park Service

## Demographic & Economic Information for

# Fort Peck Reservation



RESEARCH & ANALYSIS BUREAU  
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS  
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY

Census and Economic Information Center  
Montana Department of Commerce  
P.O. Box 200505, Helena, MT 59620-0505  
Ph: (406) 841-2740 Fax: (406) 841-2731  
E-mail: [ceic@mt.gov](mailto:ceic@mt.gov)  
Website: [www.ceic.mt.gov](http://www.ceic.mt.gov)

Research & Analysis Bureau  
Montana Department of Labor & Industry  
P.O. Box 1728, Helena, MT 59624-1728  
Ph: (406) 444-2430 or (800) 541-3964 Fax: (406) 444-2638  
E-mail: [webmaster@mt.gov](mailto:webmaster@mt.gov)  
Website: [www.ourfactsofmontana.org](http://www.ourfactsofmontana.org)

State Tribal Economic Development Commission  
Governor's Office of Indian Affairs  
State Capitol  
Helena, MT 59620-0801



Have questions or comments? Please contact Tyler Turner at (406) 444-2992



# Fort Peck Reservation

The Fort Peck reservation, centered in Poplar, is the second largest reservation in Montana, covering over two million acres of land, and is home to nearly half of the 11,755 enrolled Sioux and Assiniboine tribal members.

Unlike most rural areas which are losing population, reservations such as Fort Peck are experiencing an increase. According to the Assiniboine Sioux Tribal Enterprise Community, nearly half of their enrolled members are below the age of 18. The Fort Peck Community College has taken a progressive stance in developing distance learning capabilities and entering into partnerships with post secondary institutions to offer local academic programs in teacher training and business administration leading to bachelor's and master's degrees for tribal youth.

The majority of employment is supplied by the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes, which provide work to 400 employees in government. Tribally owned businesses account for 96 employees, while Fort Peck Community College has 81 employees. The Bureau of Indian Affairs provides federal employment to 59 employees and the Verne E Gibbs Indian Health Service has 117 employees (employment numbers provided by tribal and public entities directly).

The Assiniboine & Sioux Tribal Enterprise Community, a partnership program between the U.S. Department of Agriculture and local/tribal governments, has emerged as a key driving force in the economic development efforts of the Fort Peck Reservation. Tribally-owned entities, such as Assiniboine and Sioux Diversified (20 employees), with anticipated doubling of the workforce in 2006), West Electronics (20 employees), Fort Peck Tech (20 employees), Integrated Solutions (25 employees), local convenience stores (20 employees), and the Farm & Ranch (10 employees), gain experience in competing in global markets and in improving their profit margins.\*

According to the Foundation for the American Indian, A&S Diversified is a substantial minority-owned subcontractor for the Department of Defense, providing work for tribal members in metal fabrication and production sewing in their 160,000 square foot manufacturing facility. For the past three years, ASTI has been engaged in a Mentor Protégé Agreement with Northrop Grumman Corporation, the 2nd largest defense contractor to the U.S. government.\*

Integrated Solutions, an information technology service located in downtown Wolf Point, contracted with Avanade, a Microsoft affiliate, to perform software testing for a Medicaid program valued at \$292,500, and currently boasts 16 tribal employees of their available 25 positions. Integrated Solutions, Fort Peck Tribal College, and Avanade worked together to design a training curriculum to provide students with the technical expertise and education employees need to be job ready.

\*Source: USDA, Rural Development, Rural Empowerment Zone and Enterprise Community Program, 2003 Annual Report.

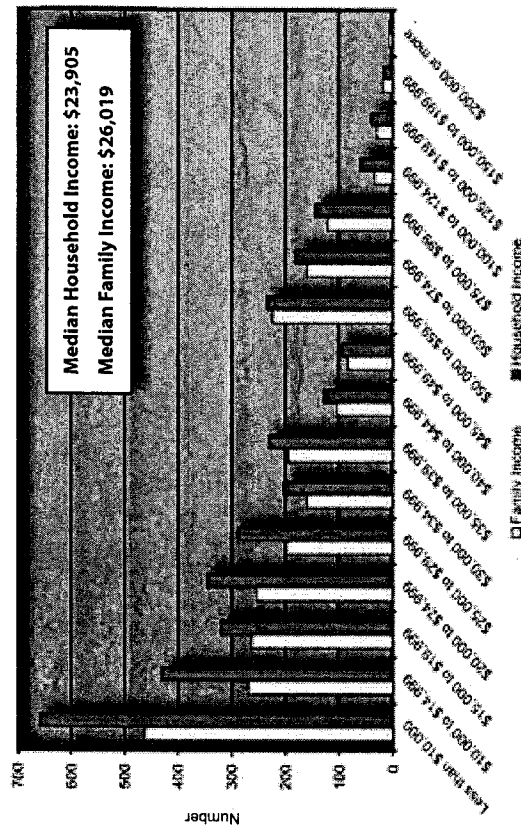
Author: Michelle Robinson, DEI Commissioner's Office

## Fort Peck Reservation - Agricultural Statistics 2002 Census of Agriculture

Farms		All Farms	Farms Operated by American Indians
Farms: (number)	548	94	
Land in farms: (acres)	1,774,370	599,892	
Average size of farms: (acres)	3,238	6,382	
Farms by size: (number)			
Less than 1,000 acres	187	27	
1,000 acres or more	361	67	
Farms by value of products sold and government payments received: (number)			
Less than \$100,000	358	57	
\$100,000 or more	190	37	
Farms by type of organization: (number)			
Family, Individual, Partnership	472	83	
Corporation, Cooperative, Trust	76	11	
Livestock Inventory and Crops Harvested			
Livestock and Poultry Inventory: (number)			
Cattle and calves	38,884	7,072	
Hogs and pigs	1,184	-	
Sheep and lambs	2,941	330	
Horses and ponies	1,270	428	
Bison	122	(D)	
Chickens (layers and broilers)	532	-	
Crops Harvested: (acres)			
Corn for grain	575	(D)	
Corn for silage or greenchop	424,383	59,481	
Wheat for grain, All	448	-	
Winter wheat for grain	114,282	13,485	
Durum wheat for grain	309,653	45,996	
Spring wheat for grain	13,426	1,330	
Barley for grain	1,286	145	
Oats for grain	-	-	
Sunflower seed, All	(D)	-	
Soybeans for beans	77,931	13,459	
Hay, haylage, grass silage			
Operator Demographics			
Primary occupation: (number)			
Farming	619	79	
Other	214	28	
Place of residence: (number)			
On farm, operated	658	86	
Not on farm, operated	175	21	
Years on present farm: (number)			
Less than 10 years	211	40	
10 years or more	622	67	
Age group: (number)			
Under 55 years	496	66	
55 years and over	337	41	
Average age of all operators: (number)	53.3	50.6	

(D): Not Discalable  
Source: U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

## Fort Peck Reservation - Distribution of Income by Family and Household from Census 2000



*Household Income: This includes the income of the household and all other individuals 15 years old and over in the household, whether they are related to the household or not. Because many households consist of only one person, average household income is usually less than average family income.*

*Family Income: In compiling statistics on family income, the income of all members 15 years old and over related to the household are summed and treated as a single amount.*

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Fort Peck Reservation - Educational Attainment Population 25 Years and Older

Educational Attainment	Total	American Indian
High School Diploma (or equivalent)	32.8%	32.0%
Associate Degree	7.9%	8.3%
Bachelor's Degree	11.9%	7.1%
Master's Degree	1.6%	0.9%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Owner and Renter Occupied Housing Units

Housing	Total	American Indian
Owner Occupied	63.2%	51.0%
Renter Occupied	36.8%	49.0%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Fort Peck Reservation - Labor Force Statistics

The table below provides labor force statistics from three separate sources. The reader will notice some of the numbers are dissimilar, owing to the differing definitions and statistical techniques used by each source. These differences are explained below:

### Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
- Unemployment rates produced by MT Department of Labor
- Labor Force definition
  - Civilian, non-institutional population 16 years and older
- The sum of Employment and Unemployment
- Employment definition
  - Did any work as paid employees
  - Worked in their own business, profession, or farm
  - Worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family owned enterprise
- Unemployment definition
  - Have not worked during monthly survey period (usually the week containing the 12th of the month)
  - Available for work
  - Actively seeking a job during last four weeks
- Unemployment Rate definition
  - Equal to the number of Unemployed divided by number in the Labor Force

### U.S. Census Bureau:

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the reservation, not the tribe.
- Uses the same definitions for Labor Force, Employment, and Unemployment as BLS
- Self-reported every ten years
- Rate reflects employment status as of April 1st, 2000

### Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA):

- Statistics represent labor characteristics of the tribe, not the reservation.
- Labor Force definition
  - Number of tribal members between 16 and 64 years old
  - Available for work
  - Not disabled or incarcerated
- Employment definition
  - Tribal members working for money
- Unemployment definition
  - Calculated by subtracting Employment from Labor Force

	Year	Labor Force	Employed	Unemployed	Unemp. Rate
Montana Department of Labor and Industry	2005	4,073	3,561	512	12.6%
U.S. Census Bureau	2000	4,375	3,608	767	17.5%
U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs	2005	3,322	1,544	1,778	53.5%



## Fort Peck Reservation - Occupation by Gender

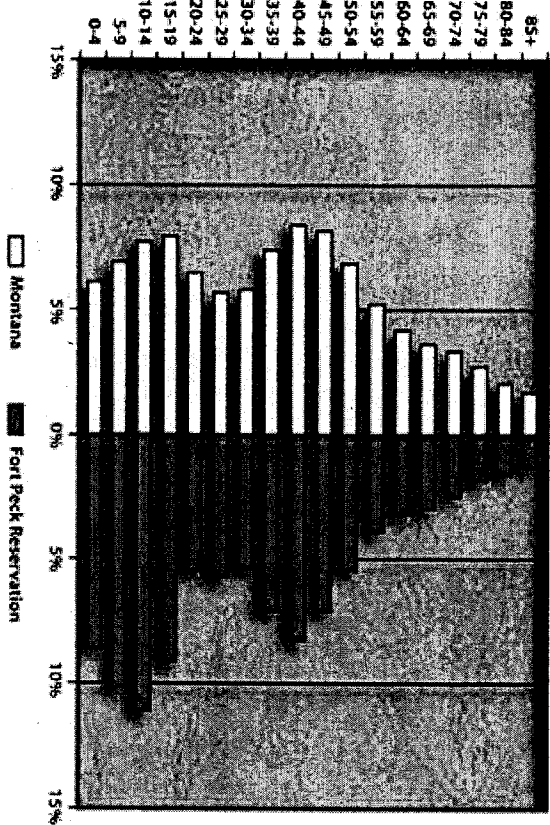
### Employed Civilian Population 16 Years and Over

Occupation	Total	American Indian
<b>Total:</b>	3,608	1,602
<b>Male:</b>	1,803	754
Management, professional, and related occupations	714	238
Service occupations	241	164
Sales and office occupations	222	54
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	70	23
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	310	164
Production, transportation, and material moving occupations	246	111
<b>Female:</b>	1,805	848
Management, professional, and related occupations	743	299
Service occupations	462	278
Sales and office occupations	552	256
Farming, fishing, and forestry occupations	19	2
Construction, extraction, and maintenance occupations	1	0
Production, transport, and material moving occupations	28	13

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Fort Peck Reservation - Population Pyramid

### Percent of Total Reservation Population by Age Group



Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000

## Fort Peck Wage & Salary Employment

### Annual Averages 2005

Industry	Average Employment	Average Annual Wages Per Job
<b>Total</b>	2,890	\$24,622
Total Private	1,286	\$19,840
Goods Producing	78	\$24,313
Construction	13	\$18,897
Manufacturing	54	\$25,455
Service Providing	1,208	\$19,550
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	471	\$21,961
Wholesale Trade	48	\$27,421
Retail Trade	361	\$18,510
Motor Vehicle and Parts Dealers	42	\$25,739
Building Materials and Garden and Equipment Supplies Dealers	39	\$16,681
Food and Beverage Stores	81	\$16,868
Grocery Stores	71	\$15,996
Gasoline Stations	125	\$19,951
Miscellaneous Store Retailers	29	\$16,932
Information	43	\$15,415
Financial Activities	57	\$21,922
Finance and Insurance	43	\$26,759
Credit Intermediation and Related Activities	29	\$28,658
Insurance Carriers and Related Activities	14	\$22,869
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	14	\$7,525
Professional and Business Services	57	\$16,335
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	25	\$24,556
Legal Services	10	\$19,159
Admin. and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services	32	\$9,884
Education and Health Services	294	\$26,191
Leisure and Hospitality	209	\$8,906
Accommodation	53	\$10,060
Food Services and Drinking Places	156	\$8,513
Full Service Restaurants	52	\$7,441
Limited Service Eating Places	85	\$9,207
Drinking Places (Alcoholic Beverages)	20	\$8,347
Other Services	66	\$11,174
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations	36	\$9,182
Total Government	1,604	\$28,456
Federal Government	209	\$47,882
State Government	82	\$33,752
Local Government	1,313	\$25,038
Local Government Education	589	\$28,478
Local Government Non-Education	725	\$22,228

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics

Note: This data is based on the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW) series which compile data reported by all employers covered under Montana unemployment insurance. Some sectors are not shown to preserve confidentiality of individual businesses.

## REPORT SUMMARY

# THE CHARACTER AND EFFECTS OF THE INDIAN ECONOMY IN WASHINGTON STATE

Indian tribes are creating economic opportunities for their own people and for other Washingtonians at an unprecedented rate. Any visitor to Quil Ceda Village on the Tulalip Reservation, the Puyallup Tribe's Emerald Queen Casino, or the government offices at Jamestown S'Klallam can see dramatic changes afoot. Indians are building, buying, selling, hiring, and investing like never before.

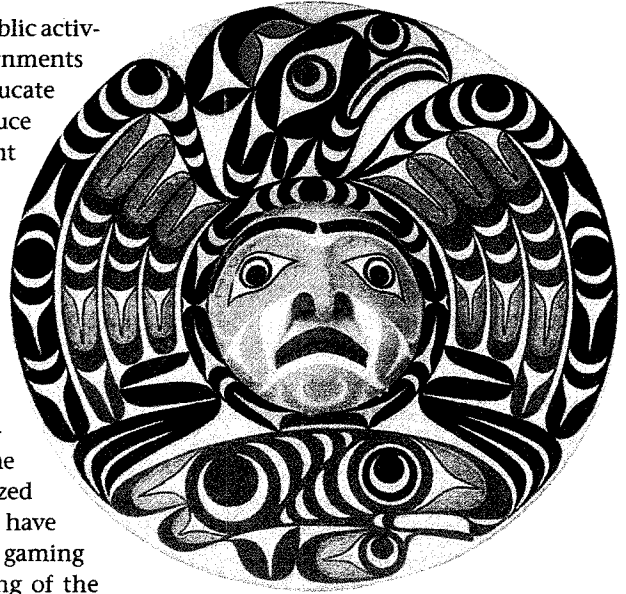
Tribes employ thousands of Washingtonians in their casinos, their non-gaming enterprises, and their governments. They buy millions of dollars' worth of goods and services from hundreds of vendors in communities near them and around the state. Those purchases and wages, in turn, yield millions in taxes for state and local governments. What is more, the tribes' commercial investments underwrite important, tribally driven social, economic, environmental, and cultural investments that produce significant and tangible results for Indians and non-Indians alike.

Indian casinos, widely recognized as critical engines for such change, categorically differ from other enterprises in Washington: governments own them. Tribal governments use casino profits to

fund the same categories of public activity that state and federal governments do. Tribal governments educate children, assist the poor, reduce pollution, build roads, fight fires, and keep the peace.

Given the low historical bases of funding for Indian governments, and the low socioeconomic standing of Indians to begin with, opportunities for economic improvement and government success abound. The Washington tribes have seized such opportunities. They have demonstrated that Indian gaming promises improved functioning of the Washington economy by raising the fortunes of communities both on and near Indian reservations.

Representing the second and final phase of a two-year project undertaken by the Taylor Policy Group (TPG) on behalf of the Washington Indian Gaming Association, this report serves as a companion to TPG's first report, *Tribal Self-Government and Gaming Policy: The Outcomes for Indians and Washington State*. Among other things, Volume I systematically examined taxable sales

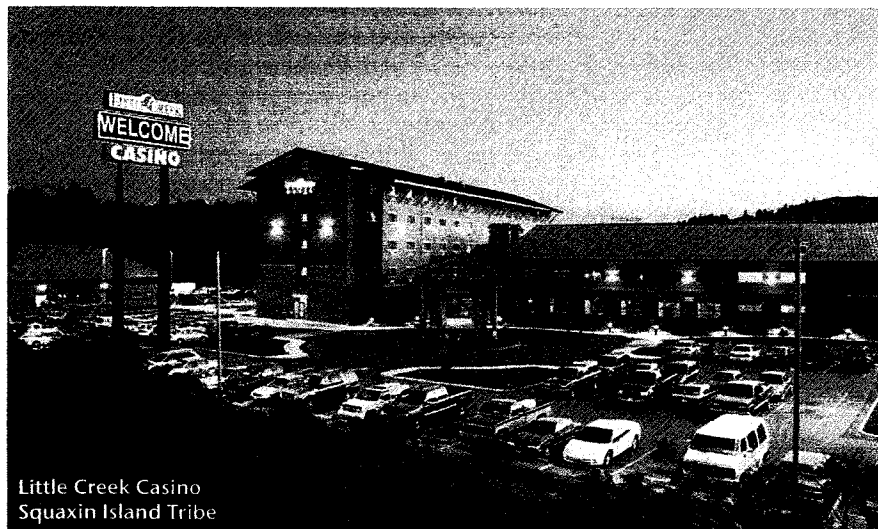


and property values in communities near reservations to determine whether introducing Indian casinos had any material effects on those important sources of Washington tax revenue. That research found no statistically discernible harm, consistent with comparable studies conducted on other jurisdictions. The second volume documents the economic, fiscal, and social effects of tribal government spending.

### Indian Economic Activity

In 2005 Indian gaming in Washington became a billion-dollar industry, yet Indians have even broader, more fundamental influences on the economy:

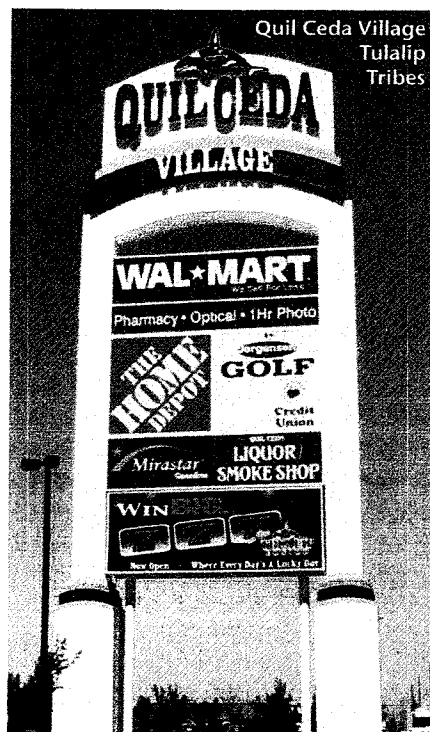
- Altogether, in 2004 the Washington Indian "economy" took in more than \$3.2 billion in revenues and employed 30,000 Washingtonians.
- The total value-added, multiplier effect of tribal government and enterprise purchasing and payroll within Washington exceeded an estimated \$2.2 billion. That sum yielded an estimated \$141 million in state and local taxes in Washington.



Little Creek Casino  
Squaxin Island Tribe

- Individual Indians owned 5,731 companies of various sizes with more than \$1 billion in revenues and 11,505 employees in 2002.
- More than 91,000 Washington Indians earned \$1.4 billion in personal income in 1999—up 26% from 1989. Still, statewide Indian income remained less than 60% of the all-races average in Washington, and on reservations it was less than half.
- Tribal enterprises owned by twenty surveyed tribes earned \$1.45 billion in revenues in 2004 and employed 13,146 people (9,155 non-Indians and 3,991 Indians).
- Other enterprises operated on Indian reservations but neither owned by Indians nor by tribes received at least \$311 million in revenue and employed at least another 1,400 people.
- Sixteen Washington tribal governments report \$695 million in combined revenues for 2004. About one-third of this revenue consisted of intergovernmental transfers and the remainder derived from fees, sales, taxes, enterprises, and other non-grant sources. Together these governments employed 4,427 people.
- Indians harvested and marketed \$12.7 million worth of salmon and \$33.9 million of shellfish in 2004, out of a total state harvest of \$19.4 million in salmon and \$104.7 million in shellfish.

This evidence reveals money flowing as freely off of as onto the reservations. Casino and other tribal enterpris-



es, along with tribal government payroll and purchasing, provide benefits for neighboring towns, for regional economies, and by natural extension, for the state as a whole.

#### Tribal Government Activity

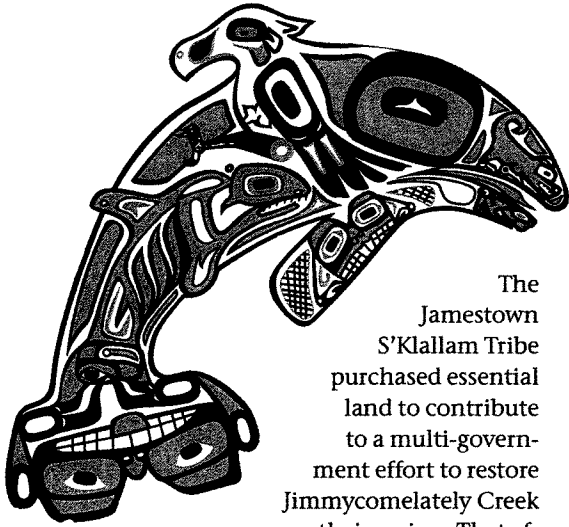
Indian socioeconomic recovery and its collateral benefits to Washington depend critically on broad recognition of the need and right of Indian tribes, like Indian cultures, to set their own course. Such definition distinguishes tribes not just from non-Indian companies and organizations, but from each other as well. In the first regard, tribal governments spend enterprise proceeds predominantly on or near the reservations unlike private firms whose profits accrue wherever in the nation

or the world their shareholders reside. Tribal governments have stated intentions to advance the socioeconomic recovery of their people. They invest in health care, college tuition, reading proficiency, habitat protection, summer youth activity, home construction, healthcare, language restoration, drug rehab, tutoring, childcare, cultural revitalization, and a variety of other realms affecting tribal quality of life. Together these investments affect broader socioeconomic outcomes. Between the 1990 and 2000 censuses, Indians on reservations in Washington saw poverty decline and incomes rise faster than other Washingtonians'. The gap between Indian and non-Indian wellbeing remains large, but it is closing.

In the second regard, history, geography, and culture distinguish the tribes substantially from each other. As a means of conveying the variation of tribal models of self-determination, as well as common trends, four accounts of recent tribal experience document and differentiate recent socioeconomic investments by tribes. The stories of the Jamestown S'Klallam, Kalispel, Squaxin Island, and Tulalip Tribes depict the explicit purposes to which tribes direct their earnings.

Each tribe's recent history attests to a particular approach to investment in changing social conditions, in bringing Indian citizens into the labor force, and in raising the productivity of their societies. Each story reveals the importance to each tribe of flexibly tailoring economic strategies to meet its own specific needs, and all the stories demonstrate substantial positive off-reservation benefits.





The Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe purchased essential land to contribute to a multi-government effort to restore Jimmycomelately Creek near their casino. That effort and a joint breedstocking program improved the chances for survival of endangered summer chum salmon in a way that would have been impossible without tribal contributions. Jamestown S'Klallam also created a health clinic in Sequim when a critical non-Indian clinic was closing. About half of the primary care in the region was at stake, but no gap in service occurred for Indian or non-Indian patients because the Tribe acted quickly and competently.

The Kalispel Tribe supports Read Right programs to advance literacy in three public schools outside its reservation and offers an adult Read Right program for employees. The result of this reading proficiency project has been a gain of eight hundred reading-level grades achieved by five hundred students in two years of operation. While the Tribe initiated the program to help Indians, the program serves all students, regardless of heritage.

The Squaxin Island Tribe operates an inpatient treatment center to address substance abuse, domestic violence, and other family and individual mental health problems. The program at the Northwest Indian Treatment Center exceeds Indian Health Service guidelines for the quality and duration of care. Independent accreditors consistently rank the Center among the top programs in the nation. While Native Americans constitute the bulk of the patient population, non-Indians also receive treatment. More broadly, non-Indian taxpayers benefit as patients and their families recover from the problems

of poverty and build life-long health and personal capability.

The Tulalip Tribes reasserted criminal jurisdiction on their reservation with the support of the State of Washington. Via participation in the Northwest Indian Court System, the Tribes established a technically capable and politically independent Tribal Court. Together, these reforms mean that prosecutions can be handled much more effectively under culturally relevant law and process. The Tulalip Tribes have also built the first federally recognized municipality on a reservation, Quil Ceda Village. The economic boom that resulted from its institutional structure and planning created not just a shopping destination, but also 1,400 jobs, \$26 million in state tax collections, and the first-ever Indian/non-Indian chamber of commerce.

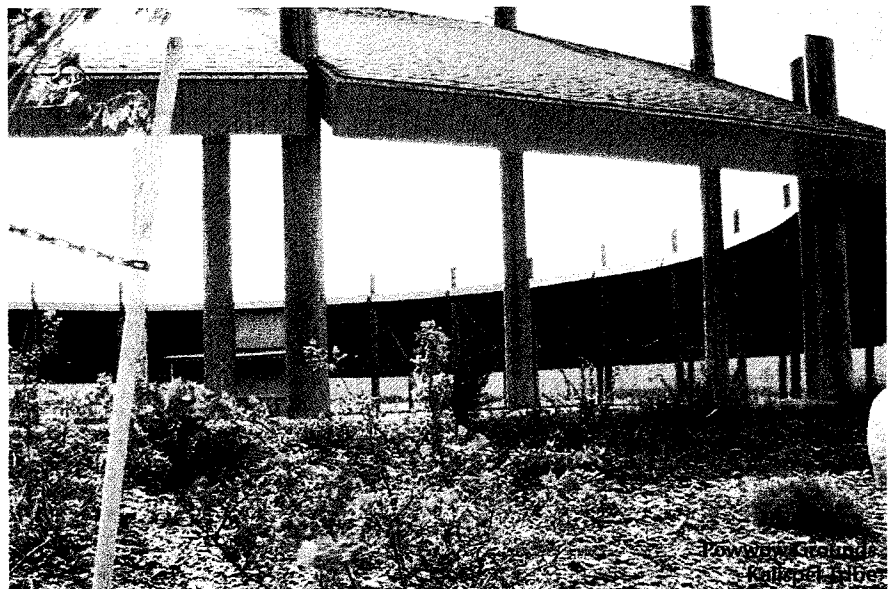
#### Tribal Fiscal Impacts

A number of features of tribal enterprise and government activity produce fiscal benefits for state, tribal, and local governments. First, the state

taxes many sales on the reservations, as noted above in the example of Quil Ceda Village. Second, even where sales cannot be taxed by Washington, tribes may impose taxes. At the Squaxin Island's Little Creek Hotel, for example, the Tribe levies a tax of 10% on room charges, compared with 10.5% in nearby Shelton.

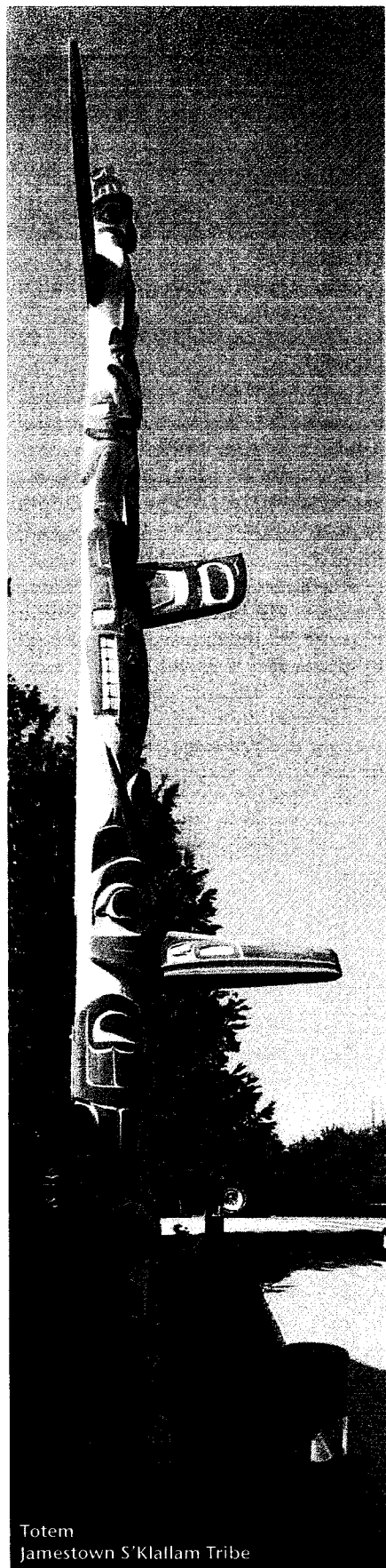


Jimmycomelately Creek Restoration  
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe



Powwow Grounds  
Kalispel Tribe





Totem  
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

Third, even where state or tribal taxes do not apply—for example, at slot machines—state collections do not decline when such businesses operate. The opening of Indian casinos produces no statistically meaningful effect on nearby, off-reservation taxable sales or taxable property.

Fourth, despite concerted efforts by the United States and tribal governments to grow tribal economies, these economies remain relatively dependent; they cannot meet their enterprises' and governments' needs for goods and services. Indeed, the vast majority of inputs purchased by four casinos studied in detail came from off-reservation providers. Similarly, the majority of jobs created by tribal enterprise in the state are held by non-Indians, and even Indian employees turn to off-reservation businesses to spend substantial portions of their household incomes.

Fifth, spending at Indian enterprises translates quickly into off-reservation taxable sales. The expenditures made by tribes and their employees translate into demand which extends through the state-taxed economy. As noted above, the total value-added, multiplier effect of tribal government and tribal enterprise purchasing and payroll within Washington exceeds an estimated \$2.2 billion. That sum yields an estimated \$141 million in state and local taxes in Washington, notwithstanding the fact that tribal governments and tribal enterprises are generally outside Washington tax jurisdiction.

Finally, tribal governments own these "non-taxable" enterprises, not individual Indians or private corporations. Thus, tribal governments effectively "tax" the profits of these enterprises at a rate of 100% to fund roads, wastewater treatment, emergency services, economic development, socioeconomic recovery, education, and other related government functions.

Like never before, Indian economic activity is growing in Washington—to the direct benefit of Washingtonians. As Indian incomes rise and areas of reservation poverty begin to shrink, Washington gains more productive, educated, healthy citizens. Where Indian enterprises grow, so also do employment opportunities for non-Indians. Where Indian governments reach the potential they never could attain under federal transfers, non-Indians in Washington benefit from positive spillovers in education, health care, natural resource management, and public infrastructure.

Much remains to be done to close the sizeable gap between Indian and non-Indian quality of life. Yet evidence shows that Indian tribes capably perform the work of governments for their own people—and not inconsequentially for the people of Washington—at a considerable benefit and at no discernible cost to the economies around them.

Jonathan B. Taylor  
Cambridge, Massachusetts  
June 2006

*This study was funded by the member governments of the Washington Indian Gaming Association and conducted under a contract with the Taylor Policy Group, Inc. The views expressed in the report are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the institutions with which he is affiliated. Data, citations, credits, and information about the author can be found in the main report, available at: [www.washingtonindiangaming.org](http://www.washingtonindiangaming.org).*

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# REPORT SUMMARY

## TRIBAL SELF-GOVERNMENT AND GAMING POLICY

### The Consequences for Indians and Washington State

#### Introduction

Indian self-government is neither an anachronism nor a beneficence of the federal government. Indian self-government is rooted in agreements forged by Indians to establish their own property rights in exchange for large land concessions.

Today tribal self-governance on the reservations is practical and necessary. Indian communities need governments to build schools, treat the sick, maintain roads, regulate waste disposal, enforce laws, resolve disputes, manage forests, and encourage economic development (among other things). Tribal governments provide these services on reservations in much the same way that state, county, and municipal governments do for citizens within their jurisdictions.

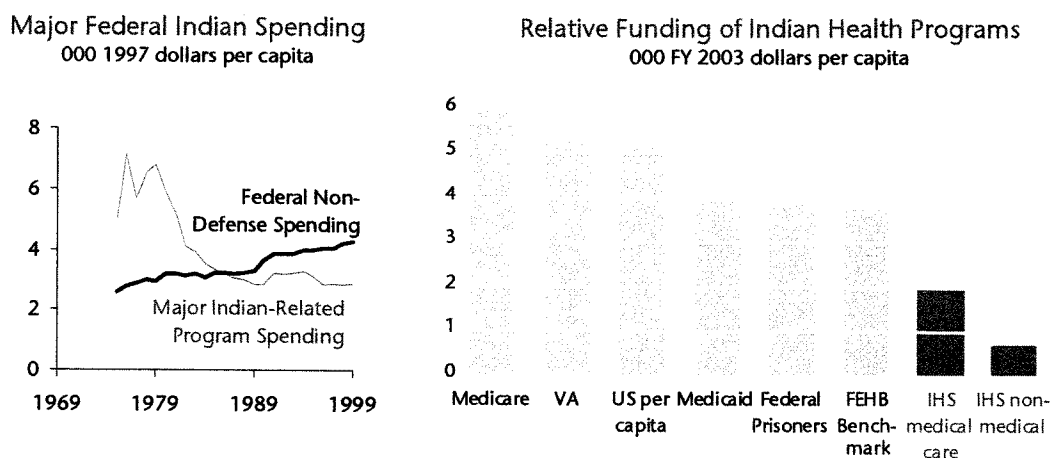
Tribal governments have presided over reservation life throughout the history of our country, and recognition of tribal sovereignty is rooted in the history and founding of the United States. Nonetheless, some features of Indian self-government are controversial, especially tribal gambling operations and Indian tax status. This report undertakes a public policy analysis of both issues.

#### The Socioeconomic Consequences of Indian Self-Determination

Tribes have standing as governments that is based in history, law, and policy—not in grants of “special” rights. More importantly, tribal government status is justified by practical success. Tribal self-determination results in significant improve-

**Figure 1**

Federal Indian Spending has been Stagnant and Low

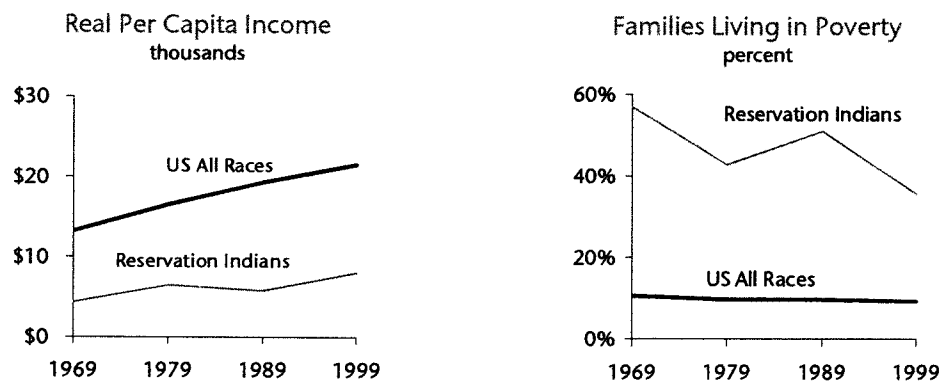


See discussion in main report at Figures 7 and 14.

ments in the efficiency and effectiveness of tribal administration. And despite stagnant and inadequate federal funding for tribes (see Figure 1), self-determination has also brought broad improvements in socioeconomic conditions on reservations across the United States (see Figure 2). Tribes need steady self-determination policies and the economic development that those policies bring if they are to close the substantial gap that remains between reservations and the wider economy.

**Figure 2**

Tribal Self-Determination has Brought Socioeconomic Change, 1969-1999



1999 dollars. See discussion in main report at Figure 6.

### Indians, Tribes, and Taxes

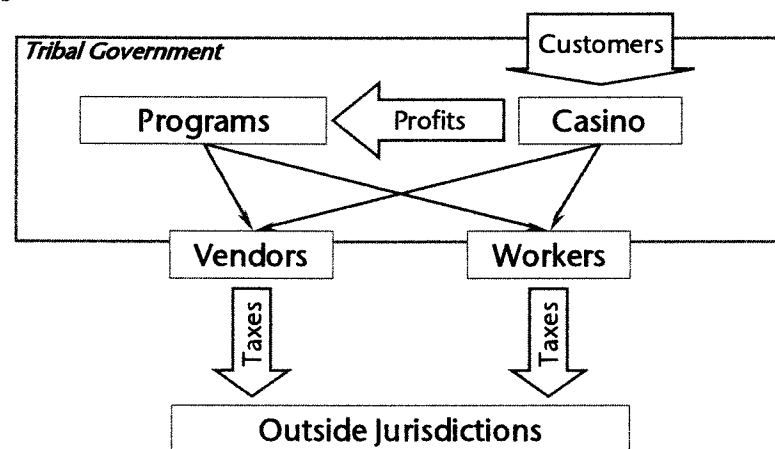
Because tribes are governments they are not taxed, but it is not the case that "Indians don't pay taxes." Individual Indians definitely do pay taxes. Tribes do not because it is a generally acknowledged principle of public finance that the thousands of governments that operate in the US do not tax each other. Transfers between governments are commonplace, but such funds are not *taxes* in any relevant sense of the word.

- Indians pay taxes (on and off the reservations), withhold taxes (\$45 million annually by Washington tribal governments, at least), and collect taxes (from their own reservation economies)
- Washington tribes reimburse the state for Indian gaming regulation, and over the last five fiscal years tribes have paid \$5.9 million—15% in excess of actual costs).
- Washington Tribes make fiscal contributions to local governments and community organizations under jointly derived impact mitigation arrangements. Over the last eight years, officially recorded payments of this kind totaled \$16 million. Total expended funds exceed this amount.

## Indian Gaming and Regional Economic Activity in Washington

The common misperception that “special” Indian rights allow Washington tribes to perpetrate fiscal and economic harms on their neighbors—for example via gambling enterprises which allegedly “drain” regional economies—is not supported by evidence. Funds spent on Indian reservations quickly cycle back to the off-reservation economy since tribes are incapable of economic isolation and are forced to turn to the off-reservation economy for significant proportions of their purchases. These purchases, in turn, are associated with tax collections for non-Indian governments. Customers bring dollars to a tribal casino or other enterprise and those revenues are split between the providers of capital, labor, goods, and services, on the one hand, and the tribe on the other. The tribal revenues, in turn, are spent on government programs and services, which then require additional capital, labor, goods and services (Figure 3). The excess demand must be satisfied from off the reservation and ripples outward from there with all the usual tax implications for the state.

**Figure 3**  
Indian Gaming Finance at a Glance



See discussion in main report at Figure 20.

Statistical analysis of statewide data finds no discernible net migration of taxable activity away from the non-Indian economy associated with the advent of Indian casinos. A fixed-effects regression of 268 of the 280 Washington tax districts covering 1990 to 2003 finds no statistically discernible change in taxable sales associated with casino introductions (at either five or fifteen miles' proximity). A virtually identical analysis of property values finds likewise. The advent of Indian casinos is not associated with systematic fiscal harms in the vicinity of reservations. In addition, studies of other jurisdictions corroborate this finding.

Because historical patterns of settlement determined where Washington Indian reservations are today, much of Indian land is found in low-density, rural, and distressed regions of the state. Twelve of the state's twenty-six Indian casinos are located



in what the Washington Employment Security Department identifies as “distressed counties” (2003). Thus, not only do the proceeds of Indian gaming accrue to one of the poorest identifiable population in the US—Indians on reservations—the location of Indian reservations in Washington means that many of the tribal casinos are in areas that need economic activity outside the reservation as well.

More importantly, the structure of the state-tribal compact allows gaming wealth to be distributed regionally within Washington. The tribes can jointly establish a trading plan under which tribes in large markets can lease the rights to deploy lottery player terminals from tribes that choose not to use their rights in a facility of their own. Twenty of the twenty-seven compacted Washington tribes have participated in such arrangements—five as buyers, fifteen as sellers—thus enabling tribes in larger markets to take advantage of those markets while helping spread the wealth to tribes in rural markets. Eight of the fifteen selling tribes (who represent 56% of the traded capacity) are located in distressed counties, whereas none of the buying tribes are.

Indian gaming is and promises to continue to be a properly functioning and beneficial sector of the Washington economy. It is also an effective exercise of Indian self-determination that benefits Washington Indians specifically and Washingtonians more generally.

Jonathan B. Taylor  
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2.14.05

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This study was funded by the member governments of the Washington Indian Gaming Association and conducted under a contract with the Taylor Policy Group, Inc. The views expressed in this report are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the institutions with which he is affiliated.

Jonathan Taylor is an economist with expertise in natural resources, gaming, and economic development. He has provided consulting expertise to tribes and bands in the United States and Canada consisting of public policy analysis, strategic advice, and economic research. Mr. Taylor is President of the Taylor Policy Group, an economics and public policy consultancy. Mr. Taylor is also a Research Fellow at The Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development at the Kennedy School of Government and a Senior Policy Scholar at The Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy, University of Arizona, Tucson.

The full report is available for download at: [washingtonindiangaming.org](http://washingtonindiangaming.org)